



LAST WEEK'S  
AVERAGE DAILY SALE  
444,000

No 63,224

FRIDAY OCTOBER 28 1988

# Britain urges caution over Soviet pledges

## New Moscow offer to destroy radar systems

- Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe both urged caution over Soviet promises to release political prisoners
- The radar decision will make it more difficult for the Republicans to justify the Strategic Defence Initiative
- In Moscow a Foreign Ministry spokesman announced two controversial radar systems would be destroyed
- Britain's reservations were reinforced when Russia refused visas to six women investigating human rights

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent and Richard Ford

A day after telling Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany that it would release all political prisoners, the Soviet Union yesterday promised to destroy two radar systems and said it would convert another establishment into a civilian space research centre.

The moves were seen by diplomatic sources as a co-ordinated effort to answer Western objections to Soviet initiatives on human rights and on a further arms control treaty.

They coincided with new

indications that the British Government is becoming concerned that its European partners may accept Soviet overtures too uncritically.

Roth Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, made speeches implicitly urging caution.

The Prime Minister said that Britain would only attend an international conference on human rights which Moscow wishes to hold if the Soviet Union first implemented human rights commitments in the 1975 Helsinki Accords.

The Foreign Secretary, in a broad-ranging review of Soviet foreign policy, said it was too soon to take Moscow's good intentions for granted.

But the moves are expected to add to euphoria in Italy and Germany after visits to Moscow by Signor Ciriaco De Mita, the Italian Prime Minister, and Chancellor Kohl.

The radar decisions will also make it harder for Mr George Bush, the Republican candidate in the US presidential campaign, to sustain his case for continuing President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative.

The Soviet Union has argued that the system would violate the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty. Washington's response was to accuse Moscow of breaking the treaty by building a phased-array radar station at Krasnoyarsk. Moscow has always denied that the station could be used to detect incoming ballistic missiles, but in response to American pressure made a conditional offer to convert it into a civilian space centre.

Yesterday it went considerably further. Mr Gennady Gerasimov, the Foreign Min-

istry spokesman, said in Moscow that radar complex in Siberia would be handed to the Academy of Sciences for a civilian space research centre.

He also said that two other radar facilities, which have aroused American concern would be destroyed.

In the past the Soviet Union has countered criticism of the Krasnoyarsk station by pointing to the construction of an American phased-radar system in Greenland and the current uprating of the existing Fylingdales station in northern England. It has argued that these constitute violations of the ABM Treaty. Yesterday it called on the US to take measures to remove these concerns.

This left some doubt as to whether the destruction or conversion of the Soviet facilities depended on the West making a comparable gesture. If it does, the impact on Western opinion is bound to be considerably less.

The British Government is likely to welcome these moves, as it has welcomed the decision to release political prisoners, but also to urge Britain's partners not to read too much into them.

Sir Geoffrey, giving the Cyril Foster lecture in Oxford, urged the West to not to change the "winning formula" combining firmness with friendship, which had secured important changes in Soviet foreign policy. While Britain wanted the reforms begun by President Gorbachev to succeed, the process would take "generations, not years".

In his most comprehensive review of Soviet foreign policy to date, Sir Geoffrey implied that the European wish to help Mr Gorbachev reform the Soviet economy was being taken too far. He was clearly thinking of Signor De Mita

Continued on page 22, col 1

## IRA team who plotted killing spree



The three Irish terrorists, Finbarr Cullen (left), Martina Shanahan and John McCann, who were convicted yesterday.

## Three Irish terrorists convicted of conspiracy to murder King

By Howard Foster

Three Irish terrorists who plotted to murder Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, were found guilty at Winchester Crown Court yesterday.

The 14-day trial was told that Cullen and Shanahan had been seen on the edge of woods near Mr King's home, Duncombe Mill House, near Chippenham, Wiltshire, by his daughter, Elisa, aged 25, who was riding with a friend on August 30 last year.

The six-man team of bodyguards based permanently at Mr King's home was alerted and the two were detained 50 minutes later under the provisions of the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

Under interrogation, they gave varying accounts of the time they had spent in Britain and when they had arrived in the West Country. Shanahan called herself Yvonne Walsh

and Cullen said he was James Doyle.

McCann was arrested later that day at a camp site at Wookey Hole, Somerset, where the three had a tent. Detectives found £4,500 in cash and an account book showing that the team had £11,400 at their disposal for a stay up to December last year.

Detectives also found lists written on cigarette papers and in a note book with the names of 19 prominent political, military and judicial figures, mostly with connections with Northern Ireland.

Four of the names, Mr King, Sir Rhodes Boyson MP, a former Northern Ireland minister, Major General Richard Clutterbuck, an expert on terrorism, and Mr Nicholas Scott, a long-serving Northern Ireland minister, had crosses marked against them.

Against some of the names, including Mr King and Sir

Rhodes Boyson, were the registration numbers of cars. In the tent, the police found a magazine on combat and survival open at an article on sniper attacks. In the yellow Datsun car driven by the three were Irish and English driving licenses in a variety of names.

There were also a series of photographs of the accused and one of a man aged about 30, with a square face, dark hair and a moustache. He is still unidentified and is being sought by the police.

A copy of a booking form for the Claremont Hotel in Blackpool in the false name of Gabriel Barlow was also found. Cullen's fingerprint was later detected on the original form at the hotel.

The court was told he had reserved a room about three weeks before the Conservative Party conference last year. The three terrorists will be sentenced today.

## INSIDE Whales in new danger

Two California grey whales freed by Soviet icebreakers after being trapped for almost three weeks off the coast of Alaska, have become trapped again by ice left in the channel cut by the icebreakers, Tass reported yesterday.

It said small pieces of ice had quickly amassed in the rescue channel, blocking the whales' path. The icebreakers would start again this morning to break up the ice.

Photograph, page 7

## 'Boy driver' in fatal crash

A boy aged 14 is thought to have been driving a car involved in a collision in which he and five other people, including a girl aged two weeks old, were killed. A girl aged six and two teenagers are seriously ill in hospital after the crash on the A583 Blackpool to Preston road in Lancashire on Wednesday night. Page 2

## Lonrho stake

Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, chief executive of Lonrho, has been overtaken by Mr Alan Bond, the Australian entrepreneur, as the group's biggest shareholder. Page 23

## Ordnance row

The Conservative-controlled Public Accounts Committee published a scathing report suggesting British Aerospace picked up a bargain when it paid £190 million for Royal Ordnance last year. Page 22

## Charlton snub

Bobby Charlton failed for the second time in four months to gain election to the Football League management committee. John Smith (Liverpool) and Robert Chase (Norwich) were elected. Page 40

## Law results

Results of the Law Society's Final Examination, Summer 1988, are published today. Page 32

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## Hacker is questioned on secrets

A jobless computer expert who says he "hacked" into defence systems was interviewed yesterday by American secret servicemen.

Mr Edward Austin, aged 23, insists that his activities amounted to an intellectual challenge only. It is understood that Scotland Yard detectives are considering the possibility that he may have breached the Official Secrets Act.

Mr Austin was arrested three weeks ago at the University of Surrey in Guildford. He says that he penetrated the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Nasa, and a nuclear weapons research centre in the United States, and gained access to Ministry of Defence files in Britain.

He was given a police warning because of his unauthorized use of the university's computers.

Electronic voyage, page 2

## Moore fights off Tory fears

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr John Moore last night appeared to have contained Conservative fears over the freezing of child benefit by announcing an extra £70 million of help for lower income families with children.

Conservative MPs rallied behind the Social Security Secretary as he told the Commons that with the £135 million annual uprating of the child help elements of family credit, income support and housing benefit, the Government would be giving more than £200 million to benefit three million children in poorer families.

With the saving from the freezing of child benefit, Mr Moore was effectively announcing a reduction of £130 million in child support, and he was roundly condemned by the Opposition.

But in an assertive performance after a miserable political year Mr Moore seemed to have won the backing of a majority of Conservative MPs

for his policy of targeting help to the most needy, rather than an across-the-board increase on child benefit, most of it going to better-off families.

He still faces a sizeable backbench revolt by those Conservative MPs implacably in favour of child benefit, when the issue is debated.

Several joined Labour MPs

yesterday in attacking the decision to freeze the benefit at £7.25 for the second year.

There was little doubt last night that Mr Moore had scored a Commons success, even though the arithmetic showed he had lost to the Treasury in the recent public expenditure negotiations.

The decision to freeze child benefit again will save £203 million. But Mr Moore was able to secure only an extra £70 million to put an extra 50p a week on the child allowance parts of family credit, income support and housing benefit.

Not necessarily all of that will be paid out. Some £27 million of the £70 million is allocated for family credit and based on a take-up rate for that benefit of 60 per cent.

Mr Robin Cook, the shadow health secretary, led the attack on Mr Moore. He said ministers were "pocketing £136 million at the expense of children".

Continued on page 22, col 6

## Exports narrow trade gap

By Nicholas Wood  
Political Correspondent

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, yesterday pointed to strong export growth as he took comfort in the latest trade figures.

The balance of payments deficit last month was almost £1 billion lower than expected. The deficit on the current account was £560 million, compared with £1.31 billion the previous month.

City analysts had raised their estimates of the deficit because of last month's postal strike, so the surprise was even greater, and the pound rose 0.9 of a cent to \$1.7690.

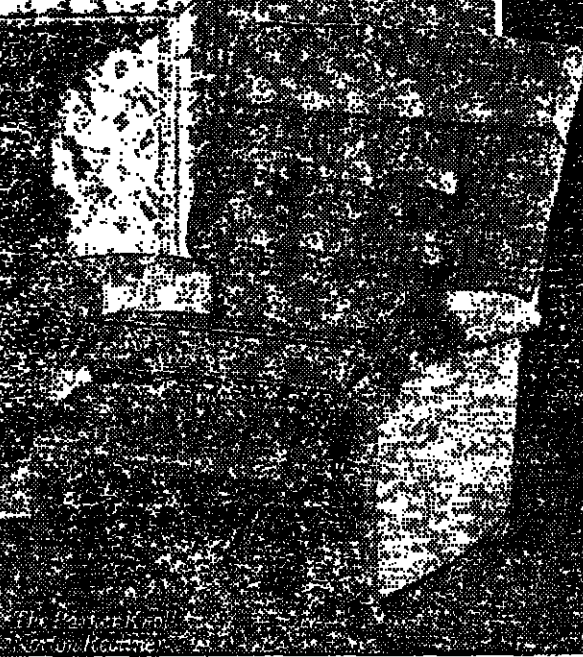
The Chancellor said it was dangerous to read too much into one month's figures and directed attention to the third-quarter performance.

Exports in this period were a record.

Pound rises, page 23

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## Any Questions test for BBC on Sinn Fein ban

By Jamie Dettmer  
Irish Affairs Correspondent



The Government media ban on Sinn Fein will be put to the test tonight when the BBC Radio 4 programme *Any Questions* is broadcast live from Belfast.

BBC editors fear that they might not be able to prevent Sinn Fein members in the audience breaking the ban.

There is also concern that one of the panel, Miss Clare Short, Labour MP for Birmingham Ladywood, could be tempted to express views which would also breach the ban. Miss Short is a leading figure in the *Time To Go* campaign, which argues that Britain should withdraw from Northern Ireland.

Arrangements for the programme were made before the Home Secretary announced the broadcasting ban on Sinn

Fein, the IRA and nine other paramilitary organizations.

Invitations for the audience were sent out by the hosts for the programme, the Unionist-controlled Antrim Borough Council. A Sinn Fein councillor was invited and other members of the Republican organization could well have secured invitations.

The BBC said last night that the director of BBC Northern Ireland and senior executives would be attending the broadcast, "prepared to take editorial decisions if it appears necessary".

However, it was not clear last night how BBC staff will be able to prevent a Sinn Fein member who has been given the microphone from proclaiming the Republican organization's ideas.

The other panel guests are Mr John

Hume, the leader of the SDLP, Mr Chris Patten, Minister for overseas development and a former Northern Ireland junior minister, and Mr Harold McCusker, Unionist MP for Upper Ban.

Channel 4 executives are expressing alarm about the Sinn Fein prohibition affecting the use of archive film, which could mean that material going back to the 1920s, showing such figures as Eamonn de Valera, cannot be shown. According to legal advice given to Channel 4 the ban could also apply to fiction as well.

● BBC TV news could be hit by a 24 hour strike over the Northern Ireland broadcasting ban, after National Union of Journalists members voted in favour of industrial action yesterday.



flame thrower capable of sending a jet of fire 80 yards was discovered in an IRA arms cache including bomb-timing devices and ammunition in the grounds of a Belfast hospice yesterday. The Russian-made flame thrower, the first to be found in Northern Ireland, is believed to have been smuggled from Libya. The police said it was with napalm tanks under stairs in an outhouse at Our Lady's Hospice on the Falls Road, which has 70 elderly women patients.

**Mr Moore joined the attack.**

**A school friend of Scott devastated by the news. Insurance must include cover**

# BRITISH MIDLAND

**A school friend of Scott devastated by the news. Insurance must include cover**

Captain Sunter told the inquest: "I cannot see that I was riding him. I was not aware of personal differences between us. No hard words ever passed between us." Mr John Glanville, the coroner, recorded a suicide verdict. Later, The Royal Navy said it was satisfied with the verdict.

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## Cabinet members and judges included in list of terrorist targets

# IRA hit unit fled to Ireland after King conspirators' arrest

By Howard Foster and Stewart Tendler

An IRA active service unit intent on murdering Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and other prominent figures fled Britain hours after the arrest of a three-member reconnaissance team convicted at Winchester Crown Court yesterday.

The unit, which was suspected by the security services to have been in Britain in the summer last year, returned to Ireland after Martina Shanahan, Finbarr Cullen and John McCann were detained under the Prevention of Terrorism Act. The identities and exact whereabouts of the unit members were not known.

Shanahan, Cullen and McCann were regarded as an experienced but relatively inexperienced team by the Provisionals - to reconnoitre the homes and activities of 34 prominent people, military buildings and Conservative Party offices.

The IRA does not use British sympathisers for that work because security services are believed to have infiltrated the network on the mainland.

Of the three, John McCann was regarded by police as the one most likely to move on to more overt terrorism. While on remand at Winchester prison, he staged his own "dirty protest", similar to that of republican prisoners in the Maze prison, Belfast, in the early 1980s, smearing excrement in his cell and refusing to wear prison clothing.

Detailed drawings by McCann of a self-loading rifle, M1 and AK47 weapons and a RFG7 rocket launcher were found on the back of an official paper in his cell while he was on remand. He claimed to have copied them from a prison text book.

The IRA has not been able to mount a concerted campaign in Britain since the 1984 Brighton bombing. Since then, there has been only one attack, at the Jughis Barracks, Mill Hill, north London, in August.

A few months before the young and relatively inexperienced team of Shanahan, McCann and Cullen arrived in Britain, the police arrested two men in Manchester after they were discovered planting caches of arms in forest land.

In the flat used by the men, who were jailed at the Central Criminal Court this summer, police found maps and atlases covering the whole of Britain.

Operation Jannik, the title given to the intense police activity started by the discovery of the three near Mr King's Wiltshire home, uncovered a list of 19 prominent figures, including judges, politicians and army establishments.

Written in notebooks and on cigarette paper were the names of most of the politicians who, in recent years, had been concerned with Northern Ireland.

However, Cabinet members were not the only ones at risk. Since its discovery, the list, security has been tightened significantly for several of those named by the terrorists.

The terrorists also had the addresses of three Conservative Party constituency offices in the South-west, as well as the addresses of West Country military establishments.

The discovery that Cullen had been to a Blackpool hotel five weeks before the Conservative Party conference last year - and had proposed to return, using the alias Gabriel Barlow, three-and-a-half weeks before it began - also

concerned security services.

Patrick Magee, the man who planted the bomb at the Grand Hotel in Brighton, had spent some time in Blackpool the year before the bombing looking at targets, including an army camp.

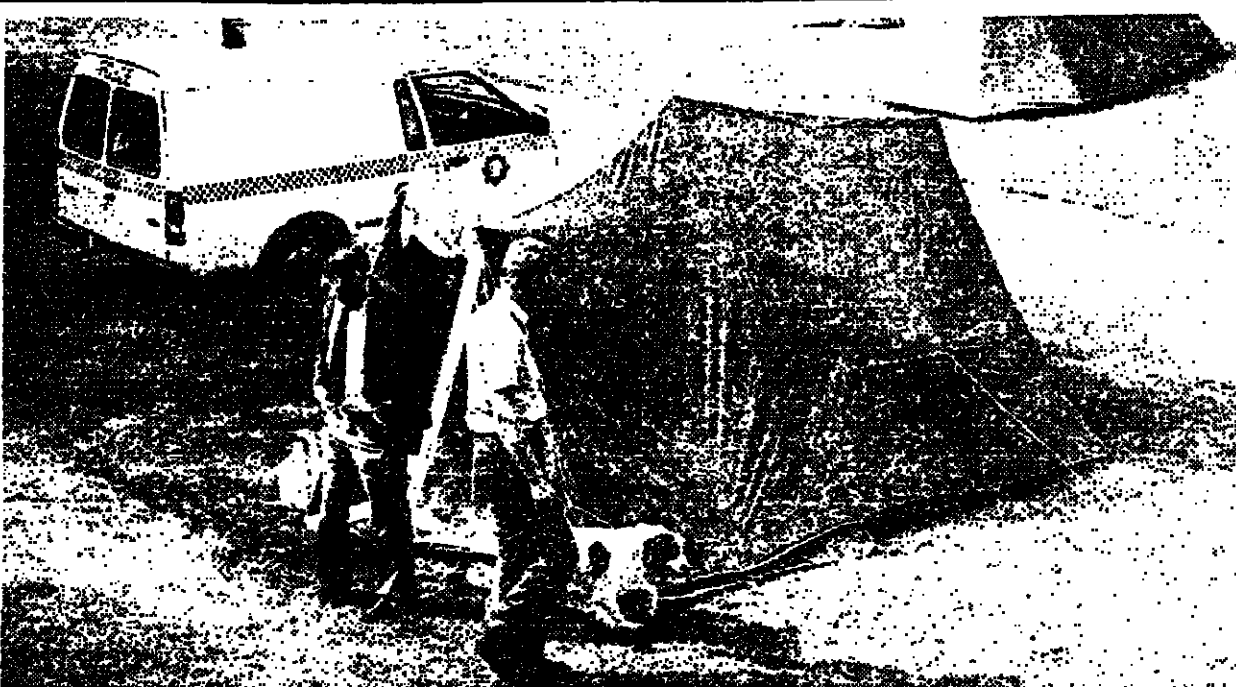
The security services said they wanted to trace a fourth person they believe was working with McCann, Cullen and Shanahan. Under interrogation, the terrorists were not able to explain the presence of four sleeping bags in their tent as they moved from camp sites in London to the West Country. Detectives found envelopes in their car containing photographs of the three and also of another man.

The meticulous account of money spent on their reconnaissance referred to "C1" with a figure identical to that paid for a yellow Datsun motorcar by the terrorists. There was also an entry marked C2, suggesting a second car may have been involved.

Periodically, members of the mainland cell would go to the Kingsway Hotel, Paddington, west London. It is thought that they were passing on information and receiving further financial help.

It is unlikely that Cullen and Shanahan, both students, and McCann, a former fitter and turner with the Irish railways, could have amassed £11,500 which police believe was meant to keep them from May until December last year.

The IRA had deliberately picked a team it knew it could rely on and one whose members would not be missed from amongst republican circles in Dublin. The IRA command was aware that the Irish police keep a watch on known and suspected activists.



Top, a tent used by the gang at Wokey Hole, Somerset; above left, their suspected vehicle; above right, Mr King's home.

The IRA also took the risk that the three were not well trained. Their task may have been intended as a test of their capabilities.

Cullen, the son of wealthy, intellectual parents, was born in Dublin in 1960 and was brought up in Maynooth, Co Kildare, where his mother taught history at St Patrick's College. She is a highly-regarded historian and also a woman's rights campaigner.

His father, Dr John Henry Cullen, is a medical doctor and clinical psychiatrist.

Cullen was active in politics at Trinity College, Dublin, joining a student branch of Sinn Féin. He was jailed with

four others for contempt of court after a student demonstration at local health administration offices in protest at proposals to withdraw free health care for students.

The five were kept in Mountjoy prison for several days before purging their contempt.

John McCann, born in Dublin in 1963, lived with his parents in the wealthy Sandymount area. His father, Martina Shanahan had more overt links with the republican cause. A member of a big, working-class family living in a terraced council house in the Rathfarnham area of Dublin, she drifted in

and out of jobs after leaving school at the age of 16.

Her father, Patrick, a former casual labourer with Dublin City Council, was jailed for nine years by the Special Court in Dublin in 1974 for carrying out a raid which netted £600 for the IRA.

The terrorist "hit list" in full: Mr King; Sir Rhodes Boyson, a former Northern Ireland minister; Mr Nicholas Scott, a long-serving Northern Ireland minister; Sir Adam Butler, former Minister of State for Northern Ireland; Sir Peter Mills, former Under Secretary of State for Northern Ireland; Mr Richard Needham, former Minister of State; Mr Christopher Patten, former Under Secretary of State;

Major General Richard Clutterbuck, the expert on terrorism; Lord Scarman, chancellor of Warwick University, who held a judicial inquiry into Northern Ireland; Lord Bridge of Harwich, who tried the Birmingham public house bombers; Major General Sir John Acland, who served in Northern Ireland at various times between 1949 and 1970; Lieutenant Colonel David Bromhead; Field Marshal Sir Roland Gibbs, former GOC of UK Land Forces; Major General John Grey; General Pellings; Major General Tony Palmer; Major General Julian Thompson, former commander in chief of Land Forces in the Falklands; General Sir Richard Trant, former commander of Land Forces in Northern Ireland; and General Sir Peter Whiteley.

## PC denies using neck-hold

A police officer involved in the arrest of Clinton McCurtin, aged 24, was invited yesterday by Mr Anthony Wilkins, his counsel, to demonstrate the head-hold he had employed to subdue the man.

On the fourth day of the inquest into the death of Mr McCurtin, Police Constable Michael Hobday, who weighs 17½ stone, denied using a neck-hold and demonstrated to the jury at Wolverhampton

Crown Court the technique he had used.

Cross-examined by Mr Ian Macdonald, QC, for the McCurtin family, the PC denied using the hold.

Earlier, Mr Gary Belcher, who had assisted the police, told the inquest how he heard PC Hobday responding to the taunts of a crowd in "a stage whisper. He said: 'Hold his neck. I'll break his bloody neck'."

Mr Macdonald referred PC

Hobday to that remark. The policeman agreed it was possible he might have said it. He said he was being pestered by an aggressive man at the time and said many things "hoping to make him back off."

Mr McCurtin, of Bovey Court, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton, died in Dudley Street, Wolverhampton, while resisting arrest on February 24 last year.

The inquest continues today.

## Watchdog to check academic freedom

By Sam Kiley  
Higher Education Reporter

An independent academic watchdog is to be set up to monitor "all cases of infringement of academic freedoms" in British universities and colleges.

The Council for Academic Autonomy, which will have its inaugural meeting on November 11 at the London School of Economics, will offset what many academics see as the danger of a "rapid erosion of freedoms" in the wake of the Education Reform Act. A paper by Dr

Anthony Smith, secretary of the council's steering committee, says the University Funding Council and the Polytechnics and Colleges Funding Council are powerful bodies which will be run largely by industrialists and businessmen whose understanding of academic issues may be limited.

The UFC will replace the University Grants Committee as the funding body for universities from December; the PCFC will play a similar role for polytechnics and other colleges of higher education.

The Government maintains that both

will have an "arm's length" relationship with the Department of Education and Science.

Dr Smith says that because the Secretary of State has power of veto over the academic plan an institution submits for funding, "there is nothing to prevent him from trying to direct higher education institutions to produce plans in line with the economic and social policies of the government of the day."

The council will also monitor the activities of the newly appointed university commissioners who will be amending university statutes and charters.

## Portfolio PLUS

### Accumulator

Yesterday's Portfolio prize of £4,000 was won by Mr David Evans, aged 54, of Sunbury, Surrey. Mr Evans, a consulting engineer, intends to use some of the money to buy a desk-top computer. The rest will be shared among his wife and three adult children.

## Complaint sent to rugby man

The school rugby coach who has denied teaching dangerous techniques that left a player paralysed for life was sent a letter of complaint by a public school, the High Court was told yesterday.

Millfield School wrote to Mr Alan Rees, Exeter Technical College's rugby coach, because it was worried about the behaviour of one of his boys on the pitch.

Mr Brian Quinn, aged 25, is suing Devon County Council, which runs the college, for damages after he broke his back in an inter-schools match when he was 17. It is claimed Mr Rees taught him "inherently dangerous" techniques and "psyched up" boys before matches because he was obsessed with winning.

Mr Rodney Speed, head of rugby at Millfield, said that another master had written a letter of complaint to Mr Rees. Mr Quinn, of Eaton Drive, Exeter, Devon, says when he used a technique taught by Mr Rees, an England schools selector, he was forced head-first into the ground and fractured his spine.

Yesterday Mr Speed said it was most unlikely that any coach who knew anything about the game would teach the technique. He had never seen an Exeter boy use it.

The hearing continues today.

## Youths deny manslaughter

# 'Soccer fan kicked to death'

A youth was beaten and kicked to death by soccer hooligans as he travelled to a Plymouth Argyle match at Swindon, a court was told yesterday.

Mark Smith, aged 17, a Plymouth Argyle supporter, was allegedly set upon by a group of Swindon Town fans in a carefully planned ambush outside the ground.

He was kicked about the head and died in hospital several days later from a brain haemorrhage. Winchester Crown Court was told.

Miss Rosina Hare, for the prosecution, said Mr Smith, of Dryburgh Crescent, Plymouth, was with a group of Plymouth Argyle supporters when trouble broke out.

In the riot that followed crates of bottles were hurled about and Mr Smith was caught, dragged to the ground, and severely beaten, Miss Hare said.

In the dock are 16 defendants. Twelve are accused of manslaughter, which they deny. They are a youth aged 16; Alan Curtis, 23, of The Rosary, Wootton Bassett; Whit, Darren Drew, 19, of Trinity Road, Cirencester; Giles, Peter Drury, 23, of Buttmore, Cirencester; Adam Fox, 18, of Edington Close, Swindon; Paul Hanks, 22, of Queens Road, Wootton Bassett; Alan Russell, 20, of Cheney Manor Road, Swindon; Mark Stratford, 20, of Westbury Road, Swindon;

Karl Thomas, 25, of Verwood Close, Swindon; Jamie Tomlinson, 19, of Watermoor Road, Cirencester; Mark Vives, 20, Shakespeare Road, Wootton Bassett; Michael Webb, 23, of Washbourne Road, Wootton Bassett.

All except Drury deny a further charge of riot. Four others also deny rioting. They are: Paul Baker, 22, and Ian Curtis, 19, of The Rosary, Wootton Bassett; Matthew O'Donnell, 20, of Station Road, Wootton Bassett; Tyrone Proberts, 23, of Selverton Road, Swindon. Five deny assault: Adam Fox, Paul Hanks, Alan Russell, Jamie Tomlinson, Michael Webb. Drury has admitted assault.

The trial continues today.

## Bishop attacks church's ignorance

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Editor

A bleak picture of ignorance and lack of commitment in the Church of England has been drawn up by the Bishop of Salisbury, Dr John Baker.

Regular church-goers do not understand their faith; raising money for the church is regarded as a burden; and the General Synod has failed to provide the church with a common mind, he believes.

"There is something fundamentally wrong with the way we shape our life in the

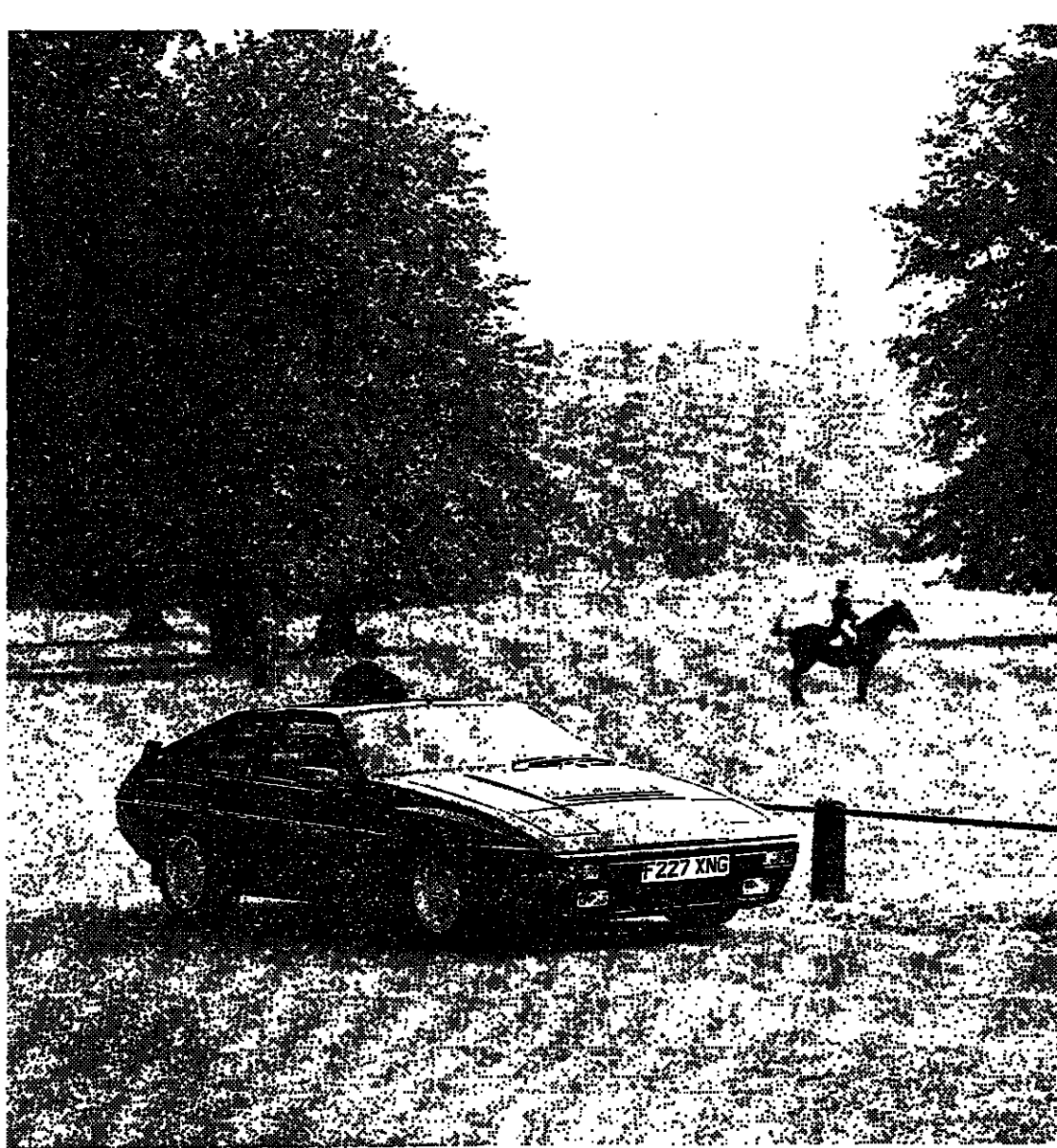
Church of England", Dr Baker says. He will explain his diagnosis at 21 deanery meetings in the next six months.

Most church members had only a fragmentary understanding of the Christian faith, he says. They needed to absorb a good deal of knowledge and experience the church's proper spiritual authority.

There was no common stock of knowledge and understanding between the clergy

and their flocks. "People feel that everyone else must know more, pray better, understand more clearly, and live more faithfully than they do."

"So they keep this humiliating anxiety hidden from their fellow-worshippers and most of all from the vicar. If you don't believe me, why is it that adults in the congregation never pay so much attention as when something absolutely elementary is being explained to the children?"



## Pickle ladies fail to preserve peace

By Robin Young

A Women's Institute competition for home preserves ended yesterday with allegations of cheating at chutney-making and counter-charges of sour grapes.

A BBC2 team preparing a television series, *The Perfect Pickle Programme*, which is to be screened from November 9, filmed the ladies of two rival WI branches preparing preserves before this year's Cheshire Show.

In 1987 the young farmers' wives of the Mere and Over Tabley branch had upset the apple-cart by scoring a victory over the ladies of neighbouring Dunham Massey, who had long dominated the competition.

This year Mere and Over Tabley's

apple preserve won again, but Dunham's Mrs Sybil Norcott, who has previously appeared on television making pickles and teaches the art to WI members throughout Cheshire, complained that Mere and Over Tabley had substituted a more mature relish than the one they had made before the television cameras.

"The whole thing is pretty horrid", Mrs Norcott said yesterday. "We both made chutney for the television programme but there was only six weeks for it to mature."

"We had the opportunity to switch our entry for a mature one too, but we were honest. I only hope it does not cause trouble between the institutes, now that it has blown up."

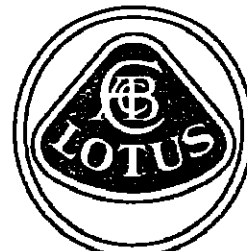
Mere's Mrs Helen Faulkner, of Backlow Hill, near Knutsford, said: "I

would rather not say anything about it. I am getting into rather a tight corner."

Mr David Mabey, who presents *The Perfect Pickle Programme*, confirmed yesterday that there was no contractual requirement that the pickle made for the programme should be that actually entered for the show.

"Mrs Norcott lost because her chutney was mouldy", he said, "and though that had only happened because it had been knocking about in front of television lights for hours in less than hygienic conditions, her complaint does smack of sour grapes."

Mrs Norcott's final comment was: "This should at least change our image among those who think the WI is all jam and Jerusalem. We are very serious about chutney, too."



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# New AS-level course is chosen by 7,000 pupils, survey shows

By David Tytler, Education Editor

Nearly 7,000 A-level students are taking the first AS level courses designed to widen the knowledge of sixth formers, according to details published by the Department of Education and Science yesterday.

Mr Kenneth Baker, the Secretary of State for Education, said yesterday that he hoped the new examination would become more popular. "I hope many more students will choose a mix of A and AS levels to secure a broad and balanced study programme."

The survey shows that about 15 per cent of schools, 30 per cent of sixth-form colleges and 8 per cent of colleges of higher education were offering the course which began in September 1987.

It takes half the time of an A level, and the first examinations will be held next summer.

The 1987-88 survey showed that 6,200 students were studying AS levels in schools, 290 in sixth-form colleges and 350 in colleges.

The most popular courses were general studies, mathematics, computing, English and French. Psychology was

School attendance officers are back on the streets looking for truant children. Bedfordshire county education officers have joined forces with the police in teams of two — a police officer and an education welfare officer — who will stop children and ask them to explain why they are not at school. If the explanations are unconvincing education officers then visit the parents.

In the first year of the scheme 180 of the 357 children stopped were truants. Attendance now top 90 per cent.

The *Times Educational Supplement* reports that county officials want magistrates to impose stiffer fines on parents whose children are found guilty of truancy.

popular in the colleges while more schools offered mathematics than any other subject.

In the first year the new course was offered in 407, about 15 per cent, of schools with A level pupils. This academic year nearly half the country's schools will be offering the new course.

● A GCSE examination board announced yesterday that it was cutting its fees, a year after protests from schools about the cost of entering pupils for the new examination (Douglas Broom writes).

The high cost of developing GCSE, without any financial help from central Government, was blamed by the boards for the fact that entry fees for the first GCSE examinations were up to 50 per cent higher than those charged for O Level and CSE.

The Southern Examining Group said yesterday that rationalization of its component boards had enabled it to cut 50p from its standard entrance fee, bringing the price per pupil, per subject, down to £12.25.

The SEG, like all the other GCSE examining "groups", was formed by GCE boards and the now-redundant CSE regional boards. The Oxford GCE Board has absorbed the Southern Regional CSE board, and the South East and South West CSE boards have merged with the Associated Examining Board in the SEG.

# Ashdown sees slice of philanthropic life

By Alan Hamilton

Mr Paddy Ashdown, who suffers from chronic and incurable enthusiasm, exclaimed: "Fantastic. This is the reincarnation of Victorian capitalist philanthropy." Perhaps unfortunately for his image, he was looking at the sort of enterprise that would deliver to Mrs Margaret Thatcher a rosy glow of ecstasy.

The leader of the Social and Liberal Democrats, on a two-week tour in search of what his publicity handouts call "the hidden price of Thatcherism", was in Halifax, West Yorkshire, standing in the middle of what was once the biggest carpet factory in Europe. It closed in 1982, leaving 500 men redundant and 1.25-million square feet of floorspace echoing empty.

Now, 2,500 people make a living in its cavernous interior, thanks to the enterprise of Mr Ernest Hall, a professional musician turned property developer who has encouraged 200 businesses, from self-employed craft workers to the personnel department of the world's biggest building society, to occupy its vastness.

The Dean Clough mill was revived without a penny of local authority money. Mr Hall is not only rich, but has a social conscience. The complex includes an art gallery and education centre.

The project has cost Mr Hall £10 million so far. Rents are based on what businesses can afford to pay. He said: "I think simply making profit is a



Mr Ashdown beside the River Aire, Leeds, reputedly the most polluted in Yorkshire (Photograph: Barry Greenwood).

shallow view of life. The enterprise culture which is spreading across England expresses profit in a much more greedy way."

Mr Ashdown then moved to Leeds, where a newly created urban development corporation is proposing to cover a wedge of green in the city with

retail stores and a Lost Valley of the Dinosaurs theme park. A "Save the Valley" protest movement has begun. "Here you have a conflict, and nobody is consulting the local people on what they want".

He attended a public meeting later at Rotherhithe, east London, at which local people

were objecting to a scheme to redevelop a group of old warehouses where 70 local people were employed.

A hapless official of the London Docklands Development Corporation was failing to satisfy the criticism. Mr Ashdown could not contain himself from the fray. "I think

that it would have been useful, and indeed courteous to the local people, had the LDDC sent one of their board members, with the power to make decisions."

Mr Ashdown finished his day by visiting down-and-out bedding down under the cold concrete of the South Bank.

## Govan by-election

# Candidates turn the focus on jobs

By Kerry Gill

There is no way of escaping the Govan by-election, fixed for November 10, even if you are a night shift worker at the Govan Kvaerner shipyard.

Men emerging from their shift were met by Mr Bob Gillespie, the Labour candidate criticizing the Government for its "fiddle" of the unemployment figures.

Later in the day, some of them were doubtless woken by Mr "Grisette" Hamilton, the Conservative candidate, as he toured the streets of the constituency spreading the message of Thatcherism.

Mr Gillespie, defending a majority of 19,500 against a bid by the Scottish National Party to wrest the seat from Labour, said he welcomed new orders at the yard, but that future orders depended on government subsidies.

He said the test of the so-called economic miracle in Scotland was the number of jobs created, after speaking to some of the 500 men facing redundancy in the wake of the takeover of Govan by Norwegians.

"The real test of recovery is not the reductions in the unemployment figures — which have been fiddled so often as to be meaningless —

but how many jobs have been created. Last year Scotland had the lowest percentage increase of all areas in the UK in the total number of jobs created", Mr Gillespie said.

"Govan already has more than 2,000 long-term unemployed men. What is the Government offering these men or the 500 now being made redundant as a result of the takeover of Govan Shipbuilders?"

Mr Hamilton emphasized the number of families in Govan who are dependent on defence-related industries.

"Across the river we have Yarrow's Shipyard currently building three frigates for the Royal Navy. Five hundred Govan families depend on the wages coming from this yard, and, of course, further down the river we have Faslane."

Asked how Govan people might view the recently announced closure of the Royal Ordnance factory at Bishopclee, Mr Hamilton said he would like to see another company, such as Ferranti, GKN or Short Brothers, take over to secure the future of jobs.

General election, June 1987: B Millan (Lab) 24,071; A Hamilton (Con) 2,852; Mrs J R Curran (SNP) 2,411; P (Comm) 237. Lab majority: 19,509.

## Weekend food prices

# Poultry sales soar despite price rise

Fresh chicken sales in Britain are soaring in spite of a price rise of at least 5p a lb at the beginning of August. That was due mostly to the higher cost of animal feed from the United States where drought destroyed the corn crops. Last month consumers bought 10 million fresh whole or portioned birds, half a million pounds of chicken more than in the previous month.

This month's prices for a whole fresh chicken range from promotional offers of 59p a lb to 99p a lb; chicken quarters £1.05 to £1.24 per lb; boneless breasts £2.34 to £3.09 a lb; and poussins £1.19 to £1.25 each.

Most meat prices are stable this week but one of the best buys is rump steak, down 3p a lb to an average price of £3.38 a lb. It is on special offer at Tesco for £2.49 a lb and at Sainsbury for £2.98 a lb. Top side ranges from £2.25 to £3.09 a lb and is on offer at Sainsbury for £1.99 a lb.

Home produced lamb continues to be reasonably priced. Best end and loin chops are down 1p to 5p a lb. Whole leg is an average of £1.80 in the South-east and £1.72 in the rest of England and Wales.

The best promotional offers are at Asda where whole and half legs are £1.29 a lb, and whole shoulders 69p a lb.

Sainsbury has loin joints down 40p a lb to £1.38 a lb and loin chops down 30p a lb to £1.68.

Best pork promotions this week are Presto, boned and rolled shoulder 98p a lb, Sainsbury fillet half leg 87p a lb, Dewhurst 99p a lb and Sainsbury boned rolled shoulder 98p a lb and Bejam 10-pack loin chops 99p a lb down 30p a lb.

Home-grown vegetables are in good supply and cheap: carrots from 10p a lb, swedes from 15p a lb, potatoes from 9p a lb and parsnips from 24 to 45p a lb.

English apples widely available are Coxes, 40p to 55p a lb; Karys, 35p to 50p a lb; Barton and Russets 40p to 50p a lb.

Salads in plentiful supply are celery 25p to 50p a head, iceberg lettuce 40p to 75p each, round lettuce 18p to 28p, spring onions 20p to 40p a bunch, and watercress 30p to 40p a bunch. Guernsey hot-house tomatoes 30p to 52p a lb and Spanish tomatoes 30 to 50p a lb are in good supply but outdoor tomatoes are finishing.

For Halloween do not forget pumpkins 20p to 30p a lb for the lanterns, and Italian and Spanish chestnuts 90p to £1.25 a lb, English cop nuts £1.40 to £1.90 a lb and French walnuts £1 to £1.40 a lb.

## Chichester's director

A director of theatre in Canada, has been distinguished British actor, to become the next director of the Chichester Festival Theatre (Andrew Gillen writes).

Mr John Phillips, aged 46, was born in London and trained at the Royal Old Vic before becoming a resident director of the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon between 1974 and

1988 he was artistic director of the Stratford Festival in Canada. Since 1986, he has been director of the festival's Young Company.

He replaces Mr John Gale, the retiring director. The National Theatre, which had its twenty-fifth anniversary yesterday, is to install a £350,000 box office computer system.

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## National Aids campaign

# Health agency in rift with Whitehall over use of TV

By Thomson Pringle

A serious rift has developed between the Department of Health and the government-appointed Health Education Authority over the launch of a national Aids campaign.

The conflict over next month's campaign is being seen by some HEA staff as a symptom of a deteriorating relationship with the Government over a number of health education issues. The authority was promised independence when it was set up 18 months ago to replace the abolished Health Education Council, which fought many battles with Whitehall.

The HEA, which took over responsibility from the department for developing campaigns on Aids and other public health projects, is coming under increasing top-level pressure to change some of its strategies.

Some staff say they are "demoralized" and are close to resigning if there is no improvement. "Independence is a myth. We no longer have any misconceptions about that", one said yesterday.

The conflict is over the

A warning of the risk of disease in overcrowded and insanitary jails was given yesterday by Judge Tuning, the Chief Inspector of Prisons. His annual report says: "We would like to have seen blood tests routinely performed for Aids and hepatitis, although we appreciate that there is a substantial body of professional opinion against it."

HEA's decision to drop Aids television commercials from this winter's campaign and to concentrate on press and other media advertising.

That move is being strongly criticised by health ministers and department officials who feel that television messages are an essential element in efforts to emphasize the risks of Aids to the general public.

The authority's view, supported by research, is that television advertisements have little or no lasting impact, fail to change sexual behaviour, and are not cost-effective. Last May the authority dropped the agency which produced all the Aids television and cinema commercials.

The issue will be discussed

The cost of interfering with the civil rights of inmates by performing blood tests must be weighed against the serious costs of disease transmission.

The Prison Department said that recommendation could not be accepted.

Report of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prisons, 1987 (Stationery Office, £4.95)

at a meeting between HEA and Department of Health officials in mid-November. The campaign is due to be launched two weeks later.

Mr David Mellor, Minister of State for Health, and Mrs Edwinna Currie, Under-Secretary of State for Health, are both critical of the authority's decision. Mr Mellor has said that he is "highly sceptical" of any Aids campaign that does not involve television, and is supported by some specialists in the disease.

When the HEA was formed on April 1, 1987, Mr Norman Fowler, then Secretary of State for Social Services, said he hoped it would be a "sturdily independent and campaigning organization".

Dr David Player, the director-general of the Health Education Council, was effectively dismissed with the abolition of the HEC for being too independent.

He complained about government interference. Shortly before he left, he was ordered to cancel with only 45 minutes' notice a press conference to launch an HEC report which accused the Government of widening the "health gap" between rich and poor.

Last week an editorial in *The Lancet* raised questions about the authority's effectiveness. "If the HEA is to convince the taxpayer of its worthiness it must only invest in activities whose effectiveness is proven, and in research that is capable of providing such proof", it said.

● The General Medical Council has objected to a government plan to test pregnant women for traces of the Aids virus in an attempt to assess how far the infection has spread in the population.

The GMC says it would be unfair to discriminate against the women but it would not object to a more general programme of anonymous testing.

## A caress from a Killa



The name is Killa Killa, but the nine-year-old gorilla at Howletts Zoo, Canterbury, is all gentleness as she caresses her third infant - Mataka, a 4½ lb male, born last week. It was the thirtieth gorilla to be born at the zoo (Photograph: Mark Pepper).

## Clergyman withdraws invitation to mayor

Mr Smith Midgeley, the Lord Mayor of Bradford, has been snubbed by a rector for his role in pushing through a package of Conservative cuts which could mean the loss of 9,000 jobs over five years.

Mr Midgeley, who used his casting vote to back the cuts, had been invited to a ceremony at St Andrew's Church, Keighley, on November 11 to celebrate environmental improvements.

Canon Peter Hutchinson has now written to council leaders saying Mr Midgeley will no longer be welcome at his church.

The letter says: "I can no longer treat Councillor Smith Midgeley as the town's chief and representative citizen".

A spokesman for the Lord Mayor said he had no comment to make.

Meanwhile, the National and Local Government Officers Association will meet counsel in London today to consider taking legal action over the cuts. Two Bradford ratepayers are already seeking an injunction for a judicial review against the council over the Lord Mayor's use of the casting vote.

Yesterday ballot papers on proposed strike action next month were being handed to Nalco's 6,000 Bradford members.

مقتدا من الاصل

## Personnel managers

# Warning of costly EEC pay deals

By Roland Radd, Employment Affairs Reporter

British companies were yesterday given a warning to resist union demands for pan-European negotiations in the run-up to 1992.

Personnel managers at their annual conference in Harrogate, North Yorkshire, were told that union moves to negotiate across borders could undermine the role of management and build up pressure for pay rises.

Mr Bill Robbins, director of human resources services at the WF company, advised British managers not to finance union demands to have pan-European discussions in various companies across the Continent.

The warning comes only a fortnight after Mr Bill Jordan, president of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, went to Washington to try to persuade the International Metalworkers' Federation to draw up a prototype agreement giving European unions a say in the terms and conditions of multinational companies such as Ford and General Motors.

Mr Robbins said that if this pan-European strategy was brought into British negotiations and pay comparisons were made with other European countries - particularly in the motor industry - managers in Britain could find themselves under renewed pressure to award further pay increases.

Pay and employment conditions were likely to change dramatically because of 1992. Mr Philip Burnford, managing director of Hay Management Consultants, said the combination of demographic changes and the increase in demand for skilled young people could result in a British brain-drain.

He cited the example of a large European computer company whose need for qualified workers in certain key disciplines was greater

than the output of all the European universities.

Mr Burnford said that Britain, in particular, was vulnerable because its universities have an easily accessible recruitment process through placement offices. He also said that the British were attracted by the opportunity to work overseas where salaries are so much higher.

For the first time in Britain there is considerable corporate concern with internal pay comparisons as general managers here notice how much better off German sales managers are.

The beginning of an international pay market for executives will most affect Britain because of its low salaries, he said.

Mr Geoffrey Martin, head of external relations at the European Commission, said it was time to explode the myth that a group of "boring Brussels bureaucrats" were trying to harmonize everything into a European cultural desert.

He said 1992 was of great importance to the growth and prosperity of Europe. With unemployment so high Europe "needs to speak with one voice to help and attract the sunrise industries of the future" to invest in Europe's depressed areas.

Mr Roy Grantham, general secretary of the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff (APEX) told the conference that trade unions welcome the opportunity to ballot members, are more willing to discuss issues with management and are working with single union agreements.

"Most unions accept the need to involve their members fully in major decisions that relate to their employment, and this has been the greatest change in employee relations in our country in the post-war period", he said.

## Lake inquest opened

The inquest into the death of a girl aged 12 in a water-skiing accident on Windermere in the Lake District was opened and adjourned at Kendal, Cumbria, yesterday pending the hearing of charges against two people over the incident.

The two, due to appear at

Windermere in December on manslaughter charges, are Woman Police Constable Karen Neale, aged 25, of High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, driver of the water-ski boat, and Mr Richard Green, aged 22, of Ilke, West Yorkshire, the water skier.

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## Siberian radar base will be converted to civilian research

Moscow (Reuters) — The Soviet Union said yesterday that a controversial radar complex in Krasnoyarsk, Siberia, would be handed over to the Academy of Sciences for use as a civilian space research centre.

At the same time the Foreign Ministry said that two other former radar installations which the United States said could violate the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty would be destroyed.

The superpowers have been arguing over the Krasnoyarsk radar for about two years in a controversy regarded as having been partly responsible for slow progress in agreement on a strategic arms treaty.

On September 16 President Gorbachev first proposed turning it into an international space centre — an idea rejected by the United States, which wants it dismantled.

Moscow has consistently argued that the Krasnoyarsk station did not go against the treaty, which bars the two powers from deploying nationwide defences against strategic missiles.

In September, 1987, a group of US congressmen was taken on a tour of the centre. Initially their report supported the Soviet view, but later most of the delegation expressed agreement with the US stand that it should be dismantled.

Asked after yesterday's news conference why Krasnoyarsk should not share the same fate as the two former radar installations, which comprise mobile wagons at sites near Moscow and Go-

mel, a Soviet official said: "Why destroy something that can be used to the benefit of the whole world?"

The Soviet statement said that, in implementing the new measures, Moscow expected "that both sides will approach questions of observing all the clauses of the ABM treaty as it was signed in 1972 both strictly and responsibly".

● SCHEVENINGEN: Nato defence ministers rounded on the Belgian Government yesterday for "needlessly" causing trouble within the alliance over proposals that could involve the future deployment of extra nuclear weapons and modernized short-range missiles in Europe (Michael Evans writes).

M. Guy Coe, the new Belgian Defence Minister, was given a hard time when he tried to explain to his fellow ministers at the Nuclear Planning Group (NPG) meeting in Scheveningen in The Netherlands, why his Government had misgivings about a Nato report which suggested a new mix of European nuclear forces.

The report, by Nato's High Level Group, recommended that ministers should encourage their countries to actively pursue options for deploying additional nuclear-capable aircraft. According to British sources, this would mean a number of Nato countries taking on extra American F111 bombers and also the new F15E Strike Eagle, which is nuclear-capable and has the same range as the F111.

The report also raised the

question of assigning American cruise-missile submarines and more US ballistic-missile submarines to the command of the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, General John Galvin.

The High Level Group also presented the ministers with a second report about the controversial issue of short-range nuclear missiles. While not making specific recommendations about modernizing the arsenal of Lance missiles, the report stated that short-range nuclear forces "must be taken into account" by Nato governments in any future planning of weapon deployments in Europe.

It was important for the unity of the alliance in the post-INF era — particularly in British and American eyes — that the two reports should receive unanimous endorsement by the allies. But the Belgians, now beset with difficult political problems with the arrival of the first Flemish Socialists in the coalition Government, took flight.

According to British sources, Mr Coe made it clear that his Government felt things were going too fast. They did not want any decisions on post-INF restructuring at this stage.

Part of the problem for the Belgians is that they would be asked to be one of the basing countries, if Nato agreed to the deployment of extra F111s.

Mr Coe was reminded that the High Level Group report had been produced by officials. It was not about to be acted on by governments.

## Sidelines seat for Ligachov



Moscow (AP) — Mr Yegor Ligachov, left, moving up beside Mr Nikolai Ryzhkov, the Soviet Prime Minister, to speak to the man who removed him as Kremlin deputy chief, President Gorbachev, at a meeting of the Supreme Soviet yesterday.

The exchange came amid new speculation about Mr Ligachov's future, caused by his isolation in seating arrangements at the meeting for the 12 Politburo members. No explanation was given for a vacant seat between him and Mr Ryzhkov, but changes in Kremlin leadership have often been heralded by slight shifts in protocol (AP reports).

Mr Ligachov, who was demoted from running ideology to agriculture in a Politburo shake-up last month, was effectively left isolated in the corner beside the empty chair while other members of the Politburo chatted throughout the session. Mr Ligachov moved over briefly to speak to President Gorbachev then returned to his seat.

During the session, officials said that they would start liquidating businesses and farms

that cannot turn a profit in an effort to bolster the sagging economy and eliminate a budget deficit expected to reach 36 billion roubles (£36 billion) next year.

"A number of enterprises are on the brink of being eliminated," Mr Boris Gostev, the Finance Minister, told the 1,500 deputies of the Supreme Soviet, gathered at the Grand Kremlin Palace for a two-day session on the 1989 development plan and the 494-billion-rouble government budget.

The economic report painted a gloomy picture of Soviet life. But the 1989 plan promised dramatic improvements in what Mr Yuri Masluykov, head of the State Planning Committee (Gosplan), conceded was a response "to criticism in the press and by deputies".

In an extraordinary turnabout for a nation that has long placed industrial development first, Mr Gostev said investment was shifting to the consumer sector, which he said should grow 2.3 times faster than heavy industry during the next year.

## Germans ask the price of Kohl's Moscow triumph

From Richard Owen, Bonn

Chancellor Helmut Kohl returned to Bonn yesterday from four days in Moscow with a triumph his critics had not bargained for — President Gorbachev's promise (not immediately confirmed by the Kremlin) to free all those regarded by the West as political prisoners by the end of the year.

Before the Moscow trip, the magazine *Der Spiegel* carried a cartoon showing Herr Kohl setting off with a big suitcase labelled "Expectations". But yesterday the press was full of praise for the "positive balance" he had achieved in Moscow, with much emphasis on what the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* called "the cultivated European manner" in which the Kremlin talks had been conducted.

Even the French, who keep a close eye on every move Germany makes in relations with the East, had warm words. The *Quotidien de Paris*, picking up the *Spiegel* image, said Herr Kohl was coming back with "a splendid present in his suitcase".

But it added a cautionary note. "Of course, we do not yet know what the Germans have offered the Russians in exchange." Almost before Herr Kohl stepped off the plane yesterday, many West Germans were asking themselves the same question.

"Gorbachev told our businessmen in Moscow that the ice had been broken," one said. "But where will the thaw take us?"

West Germans make no secret of their desire for better relations with the East. The division of Germany still rumbles, and there is a powerful emotional tug eastwards. Op-

Dividing dissidents, page 12

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#### WORLD ROUNDUP

### Palestinian rebels held in Germany

Bonn (Reuters) — West German police have detained 13 Palestinian guerrillas in a nationwide swoop that also unearthed large caches of arms. Weapons, ammunition, explosives and a grenade-launcher were found in 16 houses searched in Frankfurt, Hamburg, West Berlin and Neuss, a spokesman for the Prosecutor General said.

Security sources said the 13 members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, had planned "an action abroad, not in West Germany". There did not appear to be a connection between the group's "commandos" and West German urban guerrillas, they said. The organization, a radical, hardline group based in Damascus, has been fiercely opposed to Mr Yassir Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, and has advocated armed struggle as the ideal means of regaining Arab territories occupied by Israel.

### Former tycoon flees

Madrid (Reuters) — Señor José María Ruiz Mateos, the one-time tycoon, donned a wig in the latest colourful episode of his cat-and-mouse game with police and slipped away from his guards in Spain's High Court yesterday. The director-general of police, Señor José María Rodríguez Colorado, sacked the High Court's security chief within hours.

Witnesses said Señor Ruiz Mateos, the former head of Rumasa Holding who faces trial for fraud, vanished from a waiting room. Three false moustaches and some of his clothing were later found in a lavatory, court sources said.

### Latin challenge to US

Puerto Rico, Uruguay — Latin American heads of state meeting here yesterday called for a "new relationship" with the United States, especially on issues like the region's \$420 billion foreign debt and drug trafficking (Michael Llanos writes). The call came amid US fears that the so-called Group of Eight was trying to undermine US influence in the region by meeting outside the Organization of American States. President Alfonsín of Argentina said that the Group had an international political identity. President Garcia of Peru emphasized that they were not seeking confrontation.

### Solidarity talks 'off'

Warsaw — Mr Lech Walesa, the leader of Solidarity, said yesterday that the Polish Government no longer wanted to talk to the outlawed trade union, and that he had no plans to meet government negotiators for round-table talks which were supposed to begin today (Richard Bassett writes).

"They still choke on the word Solidarity," Mr Walesa said, adding "Some union activists are of course ready to strike now, but I wouldn't like to have strikes because Lech Walesa orders them; it is the people themselves who should decide." Last time he said this, 24 factories went on strike.

### Cubans seek refuge

Havana (Reuters) — Two Cuban men and a woman seeking political asylum took refuge inside the residence of the West German Ambassador in Havana on Monday in an apparent bid to force the authorities to allow them to go to the United States, diplomatic sources said yesterday.

In Bonn, a Foreign Ministry spokesman denied the three were in the ambassador's residence but admitted they were in the grounds of the embassy compound. The West German charge d'affaires in Havana had no comment, and no Cuban government official was immediately available.

### Syrians snub Britain

Britain asked Syria last April to allow it send more diplomats to Damascus, even though the two countries have not had diplomatic relations since 1986 (Andrew McEwen writes). The request was turned down. The unannounced move came to light yesterday after the visit to Damascus by four MPs, which Syria hoped would lead to talks on a resumption of relations. This puts a new light on the lack of interest the Government has shown in Syria's olive branch, and on its public disapproval of the MPs' visit. Britain has three diplomats working in the Syrian capital.

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Seeking another Truman miracle

# Dukakis milks the history books to sustain fightback

From Charles Bremner, Rockford, Illinois

With little else to comfort him, Mr. Michael Dukakis spent the day brandishing Harry Truman's glass of milk as he campaigned through Illinois and Missouri yesterday, relentlessly comparing himself to the patron saint of America's underdogs.

From the gritty South Side of Chicago to Truman's home town of Independence, the governor invoked the legend of the late President's 1948 victory against all the polls and conventional wisdom of the time.

In the latest of this election's polls, *The Washington Post* yesterday put the governor's support at 44 per cent compared with 52 per cent for Vice-President George Bush, a slightly narrower gap than surveys had showed earlier this week.

"I draw my inspiration today from that little guy who went to bed with a glass of milk and a sandwich and woke to be elected President of the United States," Mr. Dukakis told a nightclub full of supporters in Chicago's gritty southern suburbs.

As American school children are meant to know, President Truman was given up for politically dead right up to election night when newspapers announced Thomas Dewey's victory.

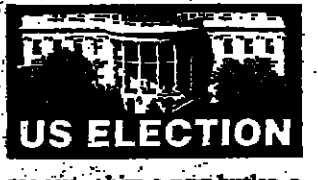
"He was a very special man," said this year's underdog. "He was short of stature and he wasn't the greatest speaker in the world."

Historians would disagree on the equivalence. Meek Michael is no match for old "Give 'em hell" Harry. One disillusioned Democratic observer commented yesterday: "Going to bed with a glass of milk

is about the only thing Dukakis would have in common with Truman."

But the governor came up with a few fresh salvos against his rival as he pursued his drive to present himself as the man of the people against Mr. Bush, the friend of the rich — a line that goes down well in the economically troubled state of Illinois.

Mr. Bush's plans for relief on capital gains tax, for instance, was "Halloween come early," he said. "It's a treat for the wealthy 1 per cent and a trick for the rest of us. What are they going to do with the



money — hire a new butler, a lifeguard for the pool?"

In Illinois, one of the crucial big states, the Bush offensive scored early results, withering Mr. Dukakis's early lead. A *Chicago Sun Times* poll showed yesterday that the Vice-President was ahead but only by a statistically insignificant 3 per cent.

"The race is still up for grabs. Pollsters don't vote, people do," Mr. Dukakis told rallies across the Midwestern states yesterday as his campaign worked hard to dispel the aura of defeat that has settled on the campaign.

One aide, for example, quickly corrected herself when she mentioned on the campaign bus: "Nice place, Chicago, I'm looking for a job here. ... I mean after spending the next eight years in Washington, of course."

Reaching into the history books again, Mr. Dukakis also compared himself to John Kennedy, who won the state of Illinois in 1960 by only 8,800 votes.

Mrs. Kitty Dukakis, the candidate's passionate, after-ego, turned-up alongside him yesterday and did her bit to correct the image of "Michael the Iceman," as Mr. Bush, the cartoonists and the Republican commentators call him.

Taking the issue of the "passion gap" in her first sentence, Mrs. Dukakis spoke of her husband's support when they lost a baby and of his help when she tried to break her dependence on amphetamine diet pills in 1978. "He said at the time 'you're more important to me than my re-election'."

The allusion to drug dependence caused a stir of apprehension, since half the audience appeared unaware of Mrs. Dukakis's past problem. In the climate of this election, drugs are something that only bad people are involved with.

"They should be careful about coming around these parts talking about drugs," said Mr. Dan Pucinski, a local organizer. "People might get the wrong idea."

As the Dukakis team kept up its "war of the fact sheets" trying to disprove Mr. Bush's claims about their candidate, *The New York Times* issued a survey on the black vote that bodes ill for the Democrats in Chicago and the other big cities.

The old black loyalty to the Democrats was eroding, it found, particularly among young blacks. Eighteen per cent of blacks under 44 were planning to vote for Mr. Bush compared with only 6 per cent who were aged 45 and older.

## Ice rescue operation renews debate on whaling



One of two California grey whales, whose way to the open sea was cleared by two Soviet icebreakers yesterday, surfacing amid the Arctic Ocean ice near Barrow in Alaska.

"The humane persistence and determination by so many individuals shows mankind's concern for the environment. It has been inspiring," he said. Jubilant Eskimo villagers organized a celebration yesterday with the crew of the two icebreakers.

However, Mr. Halldor Aggrimsson, the Fisheries Minister of Iceland, criticized the million-dollar operation, saying it revealed "double morality". "The same superpowers are killing masses of whales, even stocks that are protected," he told Parliament.

World environmental groups described the rescue as hypocritical. Mr. Campbell Plowden, Greenpeace's Whale Campaign Co-ordinator, said: "If this much attention (were) paid to the plight of the hundreds of whales harpooned each year by Japan, Iceland and Norway, the whales could be truly saved."

## Bush the optimist plugs message of prosperity

From Michael Binyon, Tacoma, Washington

Two new polls yesterday showed that Vice-President George Bush has held on to his commanding lead over his Democratic opponent.

A Washington Post/ABC poll gave him 52 per cent, compared with 44 per cent for Governor Michael Dukakis. A USA Today/CNN poll put him even farther ahead with a lead of 12 percentage points.

With only 12 days left until the election, the figures have given an added boost to the confident Bush campaign.

The Washington Post/ABC poll shows he continues to lead in every region of the country, although his support

in the South has fallen slightly. It also shows that he has a clear advantage among men, the more affluent voters and political independents — the key swing voters that each side is wooing.

Mr. Bush, however, insists as he stumps the country that he will continue campaigning as though he were 10 points behind. "I am going to keep on right down to the wire. I am not going to let up."

In a final swing through the sparse Northern states and down the West Coast, he is sticking to his campaign's two fundamental but effective themes: peace and prosperity.

On both he has trumpeted a record of success: the longest postwar economic expansion

at home, an unprecedented arms agreement and the ending of protracted regional conflicts abroad.

This agenda has given the Vice-President an enormous advantage over his opponent. He is able to portray himself as an optimist in the Reagan mould while insisting that Mr. Dukakis, in quarrelling with the record, is a candidate of "gloom and doom".

But Democratic charges that the "Swiss cheese economy" is not as good as the figures suggest and has left many people behind have nevertheless touched a vulnerable point.

All this week, therefore, Mr. Bush has been spreading a message of economic op-

timism: America is number one, has nothing to fear from foreign competition, and can continue the economic expansion until everyone has a job.

In Detroit, he delivered a rousing speech to businessmen, full of impressive statistics and confident predictions.

In the past eight years, he said, the US had created jobs at 14 times the rate of West Germany, eight times as fast as Italy, and three times as fast as Britain. America was first among the big industrialized countries.

"America produces more beef, more corn, more computer software, more computer hardware, more commercial aircraft, more telecommunications software, more

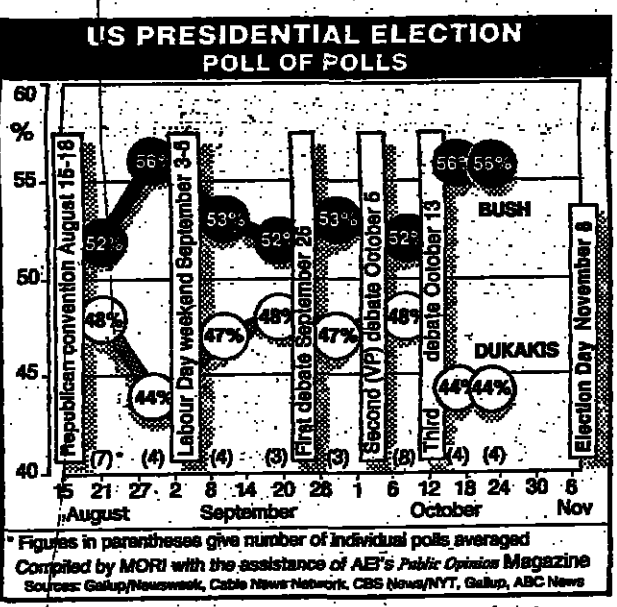
outstanding universities, more good ideas and more freedom than any nation on this planet," he declared.

All this, he insisted, was in strong contrast to the economic misery that "liberal Democrats" said was just around the corner.

Mr. Bush denied that America was losing its competitive edge. The key lay in increased investment, a skilled workforce and low taxes. He emphasizes the third point repeatedly.

He even turns at times to Britain's new-found prosperity and the Thatcher example to show that socialism is in retreat the world over and that economies are following the American example.

## Polls toll knell for Democrats as time runs out



By Robert Worcester

Twelve days to go until polling day in America, and the Dukakis bandwagon is stalled, according to the latest polls.

Four more national polls have been published this week to add to the eight taken last week after the second and final presidential television debate.

The four polls, two from Gallup and one each from CBS/New York Times and Cable News Network are all within 1 per cent of 56 per cent for Mr. George Bush and 44 per cent for Mr. Michael Dukakis after eliminating "don't knows".

All four were taken last weekend among more than 1,000 registered voters. The average mirrors the previous eight polls as shown in the graph.

The table accompanying the graph shows how the election this year compares with the Reagan-Mondale contest four years ago, in which President Reagan swept the board by a 59 per cent to 41 per cent margin. Overall, the

Dukakis campaign has made up only a third of what is required, narrowing the Republican lead to 12. Mr. Dukakis has convinced only three potential voters in 100 to switch, when he needs nine.

If projected to the Electoral College, however, there is little in it between this election and that four years ago, for at these share levels it is likely that Mr. Dukakis will carry only the District of Columbia, his home state of Massachusetts, the neighbouring state of Rhode Island, and possibly Minnesota.

Where Mr. Dukakis has done best seems to be among the elderly, who have not been so well served during the Reagan years. Little ground, however, has been made among younger voters.

Mr. Dukakis has gained support as well among the 22 per cent of American families earning between \$35,000 (£20,000) and \$50,000. He has lost significant support, however, from American blacks, 12 per cent of the electorate. In 1984 Mr. Walter Mondale

received the votes of nine out of 10 blacks; only seven in 10 say they will back Mr. Dukakis.

Mr. Dukakis has regained about half of the Reagan Democrats, 12 per cent of the electorate, which he had to bring home to their traditional political base if he was to stand a chance in the race.

If people in America voted by party label, the Democrats would win the presidency as they tend to do the Congress. More people who chose, by 38 per cent to 32 per cent, say they are Democrats rather than Republicans. But one in five Democrats supports Mr. Bush and he has a clear 17 per cent lead among the third of the American electorate who say they are independent of party.

A few days ago two respected psephologists, Mr. Norman Ornstein and Mr. Andrew Kohut, wrote in *The New York Times* that, despite Mr. Bush's lead, a third of likely voters remain swingable, and potential for a real contest remains.



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## Only far-right Conservatives have little to celebrate in South African local elections

## White voters keep Botha in the saddle

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

President Botha remains in control of the volatile middle ground of white South African politics, in spite of a still formidable threat from the far-right Conservative Party, which wants to reimpose rigid apartheid, and a rejuvenated challenge from the small, ultra-liberal Progressive Federal Party on his left.

Black South Africans, however, remain overwhelmingly indifferent, if not outrightly hostile, to the racially segregated political structures seen by Mr Botha as the building blocks of a future constitution based on white-controlled "power-sharing".

Most of the mainstream black organizations were banned from taking part in the elections, and anyway would have boycotted them on principle. The only interest in the outcome centres on the turnout of black voters, which was generally low despite desperate attempts by the Government to increase it.

The main message of Wednesday's first-ever simul-

taneous elections to white, black, Coloured (mixed-race) and Indian local and municipal councils is that it could prod President Botha into risking slightly bolder liberalizing moves. But the outcome is more likely to confirm him in his belief that his present mixture of reform and repression is about right.

The municipal elections have given him a small breathing space. The Conservatives, despite their expected impressive showing in the Transvaal, failed to live up to their own pre-election billing as a party almost pre-ordained to become the next government. With isolated local exceptions, the party fared badly outside the Transvaal, confirming its essentially regional status.

In Natal and the Cape Province, the Conservatives made virtually no impact, while in the Orange Free State, a deeply traditionalist Afrikaner area, they failed to make predicted gains.

That said, the Conser-



Hour of triumph: Mr R.F. "Pik" Botha, the Nationalist Foreign Minister, and Mr Ephraim Tshabalala, re-elected Soweto's mayor, hailed by supporters.

vatives will continue to cast a long shadow over Mr Botha in the Transvaal, where 53 per cent of the white population live and which accounts for 46 per cent of the seats in the white chamber of the tricameral Parliament. Their strong showing is bound to act as a continuing brake on any acceleration in the dismantling of apartheid.

It was expected that the Conservatives would take most of the town halls in rural parts of the province. It was far less certain that they would

come as close as they did (winning 19 out of 42 wards) to capturing Pretoria, the country's administrative capital, where they won no constituencies in the 1987 parliamentary election.

In Johannesburg, South Africa's biggest city, however, Conservative candidates won only four of the 51 seats, failing to exploit white resentment of illegal black settlement in inner-city areas.

Hillbrow, the city's area of skyscraper residential blocks where there is large-scale ra-

cial intermingling, was won by the National Party candidate, and the Government for the first time won a narrow overall majority in Johannesburg, taking 26 of the 51 seats. The Progressives held their own with 18 seats, and candidates sympathetic to the party also appeared to have won control in Cape Town and Durban.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the black leader of the Anglican Church in southern Africa, yesterday dismissed as "hilarious" claims by government ministers that the black

vote indicated "a solid mandate" for Pretoria's policies.

"How can there be a solid mandate when half the seats for blacks in the country were not even contested for lack of interest? How does 10 or 12 per cent in Soweto constitute a mandate?" he asked.

Late yesterday there were still no official final figures on black voter turnout. But government sources were claiming that on average 30 per cent of registered voters in the township wards which were contested went to the polls.

## Zambians award a sixth term to Kaunda

Lesaka (Reuters) — President Kaunda of Zambia was heading for a big win in the country's one-party elections yesterday and was certain to get a sixth five-year mandate.

State radio said that returns from three of the country's 125 constituencies had given the 64-year-old President more than 90 per cent of the ballot in the "Yes" or "No" poll in which he was unopposed.

In the big northern constituency of Chililabombwe, Dr Kaunda took 93 per cent of the vote. In the southern constituencies of Sinazongwe and Moomba, he won 96 and 91 per cent respectively.

Voting returns indicated that the turnout in these constituencies was more than 50 per cent.

Full results of Wednesday's elections, marked by heavy polling in generally fine and dry weather, are not expected until today. Voters also cast ballots to select 125 MPs from more than 600 candidates vetted by the United National Independence Party. Government leaders are hoping for a resounding mandate to boost the President.

He faces a big task in getting the economy back into gear after years of stagnation caused by fluctuating world prices for copper, the main national export, and a mounting foreign debt.

## Pakistan election

## Outright victory eluding Bhutto

From Anatol Lieven, Lahore

Outright victory seems likely to elude the Pakistan People's Party of Miss Benazir Bhutto in the elections due on November 16. Miss Bhutto's mother, Begum Nusrat Bhutto, admitted as much in a speech in Peshawar with which she launched the campaign in northern Pakistan.

The Begum predicted a tough fight and hoped that the party would emerge with a simple majority. Its leadership has repeatedly said that it will seek a coalition with former allies in the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, even if it emerges with an absolute majority.

The party has suffered a blow as a result of a kidney infection which is preventing Miss Bhutto from campaigning for at least two weeks. Party officials say that she is expected in Punjab — Pakistan's biggest province with more than 60 per cent of the population — only on November 10.

In the meantime, the weight of the campaign is being borne by her mother. The Begum is an experienced politician but lacks her daughter's charisma. The poll contest here is rather lacklustre. However, the PPP hopes Miss Bhutto will be able to campaign from a train on the journey from Karachi — where she is staying — to Peshawar, resting between stops to make speeches.

Observers here see voters as having been largely indifferent to these elections. This makes it more likely that traditional lines of local influence and power will be important, and here the main opponent of the Pakistan People's Party, the Muslim League, has the advantage of forming the "caretaker" governments of the main provinces.

After intense negotiations

and manoeuvrings, the two wings of the Muslim League, reformed by General Zia, succeeded earlier this month in reuniting. They had split after General Zia dismissed the Government of Mr Mohammed Khan Junejo, the Prime Minister, in May.

The Muslim League failed to form a broad alliance of parties against the PPP, but is joined by two smaller parties in the Islamic Democratic Alliance.

The alliance is giving prominence to General Zia's Islamization policy in its electoral agenda. How much

Islamabad (AFP) — Pakistan's Chief of Army Staff has fired Major-General Tajammul Hussain Malik who was convicted with 11 others for conspiring to overthrow the late President Zia, it was reported yesterday.

of an asset this will be, however, doubtful. Of the main religious parties, only one, albeit the best organized — the Jamaat Islami — is part of the alliance. The others are campaigning independently.

The suspension of party politics during the 11 years of General Zia's rule has strengthened the political importance of powerful individuals and families. In the countryside, aristocratic landlords continue to dominate. It is thought that they shift their support to whichever side seems most likely to win.

Defections from one party to another are common, and ideological differences between the PPP and Muslim League have diminished. In these circumstances, the personal appeal of Miss Bhutto is an important asset, and her absence, if prolonged, will be a serious blow.

## Crowded ferry sinks

Dhaka — More than 200 people are missing after an overcrowded ferry with 300 holidaymakers on board capsized in strong currents in the estuary of the Meghna river in southern Bangladesh, river police said yesterday. The boat was heading for the island of Bhola carrying people from a religious carnival when it sank on Wednesday. Divers found seven bodies when the boat was salvaged 24 hours after the accident. About 100 people managed to swim ashore, but at least 200 other passengers remain unaccounted for.

## Crash charges Two jailed

Come (Reuters) — An Italian magistrate recommended that nine senior officials be tried on charges of responsibility for the crash of an ATR42 aircraft which killed 37 people in October last year.

Algiers (Reuters) — A court in the eastern town of Annaba sentenced two men to five years in prison and acquitted 18 charged with theft and damaging public property during riots earlier this month.

## Child courier

Rome — Police here arrested a drug dealer who used a nine-year-old boy as a courier, paying him with an ice cream for each delivery.

## Ankara order

Ankara (Reuters) — Four Iranian diplomats held while trying to abduct an opposition activist must either leave Turkey or be expelled, officials said.

## Aquino denial

Manila (AFP) — President Aquino of the Philippines flatly ruled out seeking a second term of office when her term ends in June, 1992.

## Fence to go

Budapest (Reuters) — Hungary is expected to remove an electric warning fence on its border with Austria, a Politburo member said.

## China visit

Bein (Reuters) — Herr Hans Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, will arrive in China on Sunday for a four-day visit.

## Indian raid

Colombo (Reuters) — Three Tamil guerrillas were killed when Indian troops stormed a house in eastern Sri Lanka.

## 40 injured

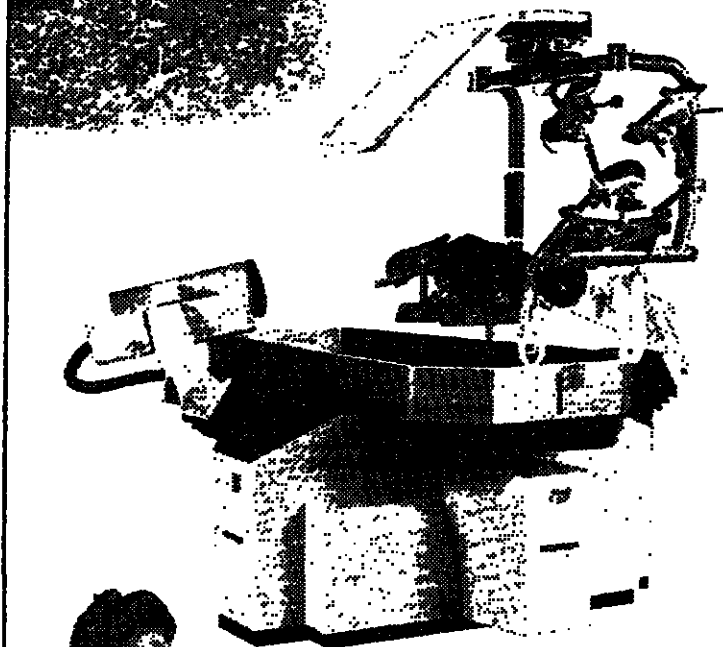
Srinagar, India (AFP) — Two bombs exploded in the business area, injuring 40 people, including 22 policemen.

## Rebels killed

Lisbon (AFP) — The Angolan Army killed 107 Unita rebels in attacks over the past week, the Angolan news agency said.



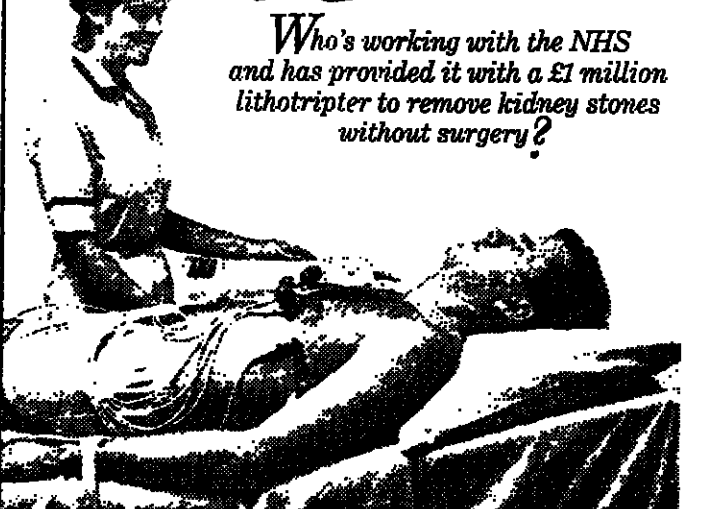
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## Egypt boosts food supplies to head off rioting threat

From Christopher Walker, Cairo

President Mubarak of Egypt has introduced emergency economic measures in an attempt to avert riots similar to those which swept Algeria earlier this month, causing hundreds of deaths and the imposition of a state of siege.

The measures, which include an open-ended freeze on government-controlled prices and state action to relieve shortages in basic food and clothing, come as officials from the International Monetary Fund are trying to persuade Egypt to impose stricter economic discipline.

Egypt, with nearly double Algeria's 27 million population, shares many similar problems, including widespread youth unemployment, falling oil revenues, consumer shortages, a lack of housing and spiralling prices now unofficially estimated to be rising by 30 per cent a year.

The new package was hammered out at an emergency Cabinet session earlier this week which lasted six hours, the longest such gathering here since the crisis days of 1981 when President Sadat was assassinated.

Yesterday Dr Galal Abul-Dahab, the Supply and Home Minister, said that the supply sector had taken action to implement presidential directives to ensure there were no

shortages in a number of basic goods, including sugar (now a black market commodity), cooking oil, tea, wheat, flour, poultry and vegetables.

The minister disclosed that he had received orders as a result of the Cabinet session, and that the Government had pledged to supply foreign currency to import short-supply items if they were not available from domestic sources.

Government-run shops have increased supplies of clothing as a result of the measures. But glaring inequalities in wealth similar to those which fuelled the Algerian violence still exist and provoke increasing resentment from the very poor who live below the breadline.

"A country in which some

people are paying £E300,000 (£75,000) duty on an imported Mercedes, and others are living in graveyards because they have no homes, is bound to present a risk," one Egyptian businessman said. "If we do have an uprising here, it will be because the contrasts between rich and poor have got out of hand."

Among the parallels with Algeria most worrying for President Mubarak are the \$400 million (£238 million) drop in Egyptian oil revenues as a result of the slump in world prices, and the two million unemployed graduates waiting up to five years for government-guaranteed jobs under a scheme which dates back to efforts by Nasser to dampen student unrest.

As in Algeria, the Government is facing mounting Islamic fundamentalism which is centred in the slums of the main cities and in the universities. A week after the rioting erupted in Algiers, about 200 Muslim extremists marched through Cairo with banners attacking price rises and demanding the release of jailed colleagues.

The marchers, later dispersed by the security forces, were defying a government ban on demonstrations. They shouted anti-government slogans, including the chant not

previously heard in the streets of the capital: "There is not God but Allah. Mubarak is the enemy of Allah."

When the universities reopened, just as the Algerian Government was getting its crisis under control, about 200 students at Alexandria University marched with banners announcing support for the events in Algeria.

It was disclosed yesterday that opposition politicians have been barred from entering Egypt's universities in the run-up to next month's student elections.

In the latest edition of the Cairo weekly *Liwa' al-Islam*, Dr Helmi Murad, leader of the Liberal Party, is one of a number of opposition figures contributing to a feature claiming that political and economic conditions are now much more explosive than at the time of the murder of Sadat in 1981.

President Mubarak has strongly resisted pressure from the IMF to speed up an austerity programme.

The President is haunted by the memory of the bread riots of 1977, when rampaging mobs took to the streets after the doubling of the price of a loaf. At least 87 people died before the revolt was quelled and the proposed increase dropped.

## End of a £31,445 London taxi ride



Against the backdrop of the Sydney Opera House, London taxi-driver Mr. Smith giving a thumbs-up after completing the longest and most expensive taxi ride in history.

With the meter of Mr. Smith's taxi Betsy still ticking over, the fare from Buckingham Palace to the Opera House came to £31,445 (Christopher Morris writes). There was no passenger to pay it, but the journey has raised almost £250,000 for children's charities in London, Singapore and Australia.

The 14,000-mile and 70-day trip almost ended in disaster in Pakistan, near the border with Afghanistan, when the taxi was attacked by riflemen. "That was really frightening," said Mr. Smith of

Charing Cross Road, London. "We were driving into the Baluchistan hills when suddenly a truckload of rebels came towards us firing their guns. They looked pretty fierce, but they were stopped in their tracks when they spotted our London taxi. They were completely baffled since they'd never seen anything like it before. They came across to have a look and we were able to communicate. They soon became quite friendly and allowed us to drive on, this time firing their guns in the air as we left."

Kanelli Tsiros, a Sydney taxi driver - was caught in the crossfire as rebels clashed with Afghan troops in the mountains. The taxi broke down only twice, when shock absorbers gave way and two fuel pipes ruptured. "Incredibly, we didn't have a puncture all the way," added Mr. Smith. "And we drove across some pretty rugged country on dirt roads, up mountain ranges and over deserts. It was a fantastic trip and the taxi showed just how reliable a London cab can be."

The taxi's meter was started on August 19 at Buckingham Palace and was kept running across Europe, Turkey, Iran, Pakistan, India, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and from Perth to Sydney.

## Gunmen to hang for Khartoum killing of Britons

From Andrew Buckoke, Nairobi

Five Palestinians have been sentenced to hang by a Sudanese court for the bomb and machine-gun attacks on the Acropole Hotel and the former British Club in central Khartoum on May 15. Five Britons, including a family of four, were among the seven people killed.

Mr Christopher Rolfe, aged 35, from Brighton, who worked with his wife Claire, aged 37, for the Woking-based charity, the Ockenden Venture, their son Thomas, aged three, and daughter Louise, aged one, were killed along with a British teacher, Miss Sally Rickett, aged 52, a Sudanese army officer, and waiter when a bomb ripped through the Acropole dining room.

Two of the five Palestinians, who were all arrested shortly after the attacks, told investigators they had been sent to Khartoum by the Abu Nidal group to exact revenge for the killing of Khalil el-Wazir, or Abu Jihad, an aide of the PLO chairman, Mr Yassir Arafat, by Israeli agents in Tunisia on April 15.

American counter-insurgency experts believe the five, identified as Imad Ahmed, Sherif Ezzat, Hassan Qasim, Mustafa Aref and Ibrahim Saleh, are connected with Abu Nidal.

The Acropole and Sudan Club are heavily frequented by British, American and other aid workers, and Khartoum has gained a reputation for lax security and easy access for Middle Eastern gunmen. The United States and Britain have in the past warned their nationals against travelling to Khartoum.

In August last year a prominent Iraqi dissident was shot dead by suspected Iraqi secret service men in the lobby of the Hilton Hotel. In July, 1986, a US Embassy worker was shot by suspected Libyan gunmen.

These attacks have been highly embarrassing to the Sudanese Government, which

tries to maintain good relations with the West and the various Arab factions. The pressures have generated considerable controversy around the trial.

The verdict has been postponed four times, most recently on Tuesday when defence lawyers objected to the words used by the Prime Minister, Mr Sadiq el-Mahdi, when he announced at the weekend an urgent inquiry into the reported presence in Khartoum of Palestinians closely connected with the defendants.

The Prime Minister referred to them as "the terrorist elements that carried out last May's attack". Strong rumours were circulating in Khartoum after the third adjournment on October 17 that the Government had accepted money from Abu Nidal, ostensibly for flood relief, to be lenient towards the defendants.

Mr Charles Redman, a State Department spokesman in Washington, said the US "would be extremely concerned if any donation were accepted in return for the release or lenient sentencing of suspected terrorists".

Mr Sadiq el-Mahdi admitted last week that Sudan has accepted famine relief from many Palestinian groups, but said he did not know about any contribution from Abu Nidal, which he said had no representation in Sudan.

On Wednesday this week he made another statement, rejecting the idea that the five defendants had any connection with any Palestinian organizations.

Many observers believe that the Prime Minister, whose canny handling of Sudanese politics has so far kept his shaky coalition of northern Muslim parties in power, is being equally diplomatic about the bombing case.

The sentences should satisfy the West while the denial of any Palestinian involvement should satisfy the Arabs.

## West's aid sought to end Sudan war

By Andrew Lycett

Western governments were urged in London yesterday to use their influence to persuade Khartoum to go to the negotiating table with the southern Sudanese rebels.

The call came from Mr Bona Mahwal, the editor-in-chief of the Khartoum daily, *Sudan Times* and a former Sudanese Minister of Culture and Information, when he launched a new book, *War Wounds: Sudanese People Report On Their War*.

In the book Sudanese, including Mr Mahwal, record how five years of civil war in southern Sudan has played havoc with people's lives and brought all development there to a stop.

Both the Sudanese Government of Mr Sadiq el-Mahdi, the Prime Minister, and the rebel Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA), led by Colonel John Garang, are castigated equally in the book.

The root cause of the war is the unequal development of the south. But this has been overtaken and obscured by a religious feud between the

Muslim northerners and the Christian or animist southerners.

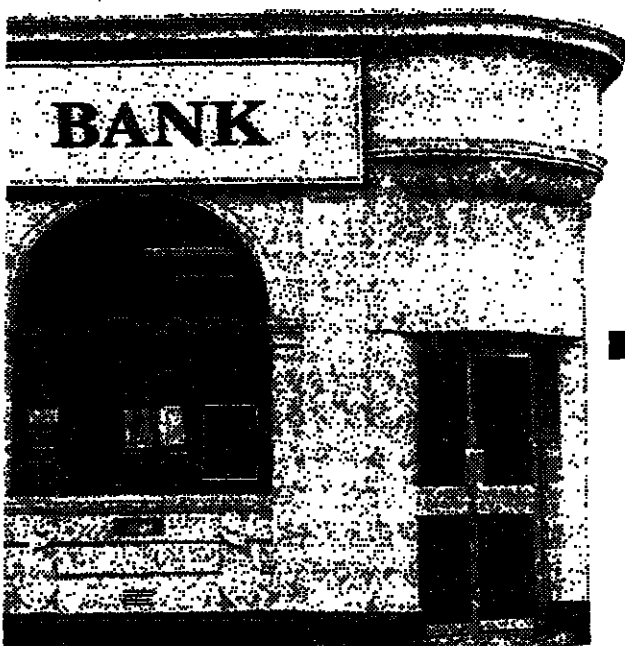
Both the SPLA and the Government are exhausted and would like an end to hostilities, but so complicated are tribal and party political rivalries in Sudan that there is little room for manoeuvre.

Therefore, Mr Mahwal said, the time was ripe for the West to put pressure on Khartoum to seek peace. An Islamic-leaning Sudan was unlikely to seek solace with the Soviet Union, he added.

The SPLA still refuses to speak to Mr el-Mahdi. The Sudanese Government made much of a planned meeting between him and Colonel Garang, which it said was going to take place in Kampala last week. But nothing happened.

However, another secret meeting took place between the colonel and Dr Hassan al-Turabi, the National Islamic Front leader. If they can resolve their differences, there may be some hope for ending Sudan's civil war.

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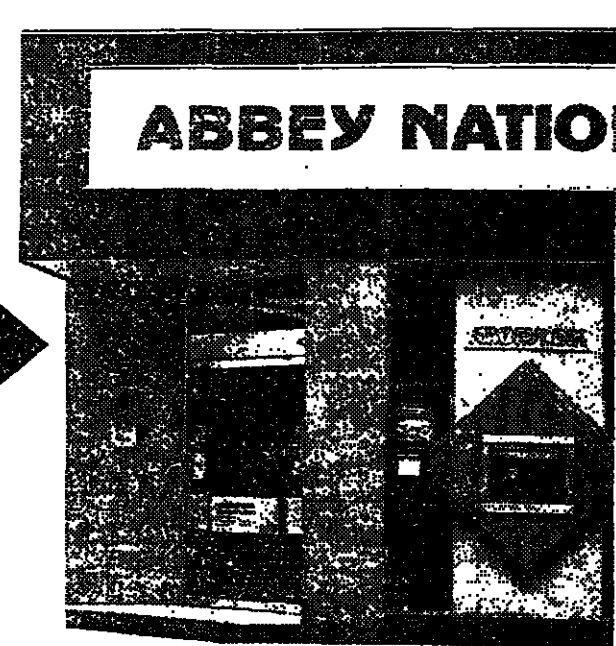
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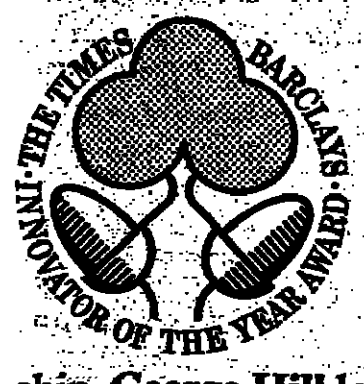






SPECTRUM

# The best of British for '88



From the guided ink-blot and a breakthrough in the production of antibodies to the super-fast computer

chip, George Hill looks at the short-listed entries in our competition for the products of inventive genius

The remote-controlled ink-blot was a trick we never managed to master, back in Lower Five B. Once launched from the fountain pen, the flying blot would pursue its wayward course regardless of evasive action by the moving target, or the sudden appearance of Old Chalkie at the classroom door.

It was Cambridge that eventually cracked the problem, and it is Cambridge which has now refined the solution in one of the five short-listed entries for this year's innovator of the Year Award, jointly-sponsored by The Times and Barclays Bank. The award will be presented at the Technart Exhibition at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, next month.

The secret we never hit on at school is magnetized ink. In an electro-magnetic field, electrically-charged ink can be guided to its target. Elmjet Ltd, of Cambridge, has built on the idea and devised a battery of multiple nozzles which will make possible full-colour bombardments by hundreds of droplets at a time.

Classroom applications have not yet been developed, but the process allows accurate printing on such unpromising surfaces as corrugated paper and yoghurt-pots. Because there is no printing matrix or cylinder, the printed message can be changed from moment to moment, under computer control, without stopping the presses.

"At present I wouldn't see any application in the printing of newspapers or books," says Mark

Ellis, secretary of Elmjet, which employs about 35 skilled researchers and engineers. "Up to now the main use has been in the printing of bar-codes on merchandise. But if a newspaper wanted to put out variable information to different localities, or a new edition every half-hour, then we might one day see them using non-contact printing."

Elmjet is atypical among the high-technology firms competing for the award, now in its fifth year, because it is the manufacturer of a tangible product. In these areas, it is ideas that are the essential commodity, and ideas, often to be applied by others under licence, are the main stock-in-trade of several competitors.

Optimised Control Ltd, for instance, designs computerized monitors for machines, but the main manufacturing work will be done under licence outside its 250 sq ft office in Bristol. Working closely with Bristol University, it has developed a device the size of a large shoe-box which can be fitted to a wide variety of automated equipment, with instructions in a clear and familiar idiom for control by computer.

"Traditionally, people have had to assemble systems such as this from disparate parts," says director Ivor Gillie. "We supply an integrated unit in which a micro-computer operates on information fed back from an encoder 1,000 times a second to control a motor. It is a package ready for use and it should make it very easy for engineers to solve industrial automation problems, without having to bother about the



Looking to the future: Mark Ellis, of Elmjet, demonstrates a bar-code which was printed using a magnetized-ink developed by his company

complexities of servo control. If they change their motor system, a new micro can be installed which will work with the same software."

M V Scientific Services Ltd, of Durham, is more closely in tune with the conventional image of a high-technology industry. It has reserved 5,000 sq ft of space for an ion-accelerator working at up to half a million volts, for the manufacture of "chips" - miniature integrated circuits as used in computers.

"Today's chips are made of silicon, but the drawbacks of silicon begin to show up as

computers grow more complex," says director Chris Richmond. "The material gallium arsenide is a semiconductor, which means that it can carry messages several times faster than silicon. Since it does not give off as much heat when working, it gets over the serious cooling problems in today's computers."

"The problem has been to find a commercial way of implanting positively-charged particles, or ions, into the surface of the semiconductor to make printed circuits. We shoot them at it in a vacuum at such high voltages that

they are embedded into it. There are many applications in defence and other fields, and if satellite broadcasting takes off, that will make the market much larger."

Two entrants are in the medical field, both closely related to hospital research departments which would enjoy a share of the rewards from commercial success. At St George's Hospital Medical School, Professor John Hermon-Taylor and Dr Brian Austen have developed a method of producing antibodies against synthetic fragments of proteins, which could improve diagnosis of pancreaticitis

and other diseases. They have formed the company BioScience International to control their manufacture under licence all over the world.

Hermon-Taylor explains: "If the digestive juices get out of the gut, they can attack the body's own tissues. But their molecules are not easy to detect."

Now the new approach means that "instead of looking for the molecules themselves, we looked for the 'pin of the grenade', which the body supplies to stop each molecule from going on the attack until it is needed. If we find that

there are pins on the loose, that means there must be active-molecules, too.

"We had four years of the usual underfunded research, with tin cans and bits of string, and the project nearly collapsed twice. We had to find an antibody which could recognize the 'pins', and then we had to find how to manufacture it in quantity, which wasn't easy. But now we could purify enough antibody for the whole of Europe in a single morning."

At the Middlesex and University College School of Medicine, Professor Roger Ekins has also been working with antibodies for the identification and measurement of biological substances.

"Two Nobel Prizes have been awarded in this field in the past ten years or so, showing its great importance," Ekins says.

Methods of immuno-assay of this kind are the basis for the screening tests to prevent cretinism, which are given at birth to all children born in most western countries, and of the tests to detect Aids and other viruses in blood donated for transfusions. There are many non-medical uses, too, in detecting contaminants in foods and hormones given illegally.

"In many situations, one must identify one molecule of the substance of interest out of a million million other molecules - which is harder than picking out one individual from the entire world population," Ekins says.

"Such technology will totally transform medical diagnosis. British researchers have long been in the forefront in this field, but the United States has exploited it much more vigorously. The British have a reputation for making inventions but then failing to exploit them."

"The immunodiagnosis market is reputedly worth billions of dollars a year and is currently the most commercially important area of biotechnology. I'm determined that on this occasion a major slice of the financial rewards which our research generates will remain in Britain. Whether we win this prize or not, I predict that our current research will ultimately prove to be the one with the greatest potential for bringing money into this country."

## A look at the Hockney root

Our art critic Craig de Brough writes: Arguably, no one is more like Hockney than Hockney himself. This becomes increasingly clear upon entering the magnificent Tate Gallery Retrospective, in which each painting, each canvas, each collage, each photo-montage, is undeniably the work of Hockney. Staring expertly at a splendid Californian landscape in which the colour of the palm trees (green) and the water (blue) seem to me perfectly judged, I turned to an attendant. "Who is this one by?" I asked, quizzically. "Hockney," he replied. Just as I thought.

One small room - easily overlooked - at the Tate Gallery Retrospective, is The Bradford Collection, sponsored by the mayor and city of Bradford. Scrutiny of this important room confirms that, while Hockney may have spent much of his life among the jet-set of California, his roots always remained in his home town. The Bradford Collection contains preliminary sketches for many of Hockney's most influential canvases. A preliminary drawing for "A Bigger Splash", for instance, shows Councillor Pickles setting up a toll booth in the Bradford Municipal Baths. Only later did Hockney transform this vision to the more free-and-easy setting of California. Similarly, "We Two Boys Together Clinging", often wrongly interpreted by critics as a homo-erotic tribute

to Walt Whitman, was originally entitled "We Two Councillors Forever Clinging", portraying Councillors Pickles and Bealey arguing about the provision of shower facilities in rented accommodation.

Inarguably, no one is more like Hockney than Hockney himself.

The questions posed to celebrities used to be relatively simple. An author would present a publisher with a batch of celebrity-based ideas. "My Favourite Dinner Party", "My First Love", "My Favourite Anecdote Showing Myself In A Marvellously Agreeable Light" - and he would then return a few days later with three Christmas Books, all with amusing little snippets from Jane Asher, Maureen Lipman, Spike Milligan and Jeffrey Archer. In recent years, the supply of ideas for these celebrity books has run rather dry. "My Favourite Plimsoll", "My First Goldfish", "My Second Favourite Anecdote Showing How Much I Care For Children", all betray signs of leisharg. But now Hockney Mills has produced a book called My God, in which the same celebrities are faced with the question: "What do you believe happens to you when you die?" Lord Forte states in My God that he is confident of being sent to Heaven and that it is, in his opinion, "a beautiful place". If I were God, I would



CRAIG BROWN

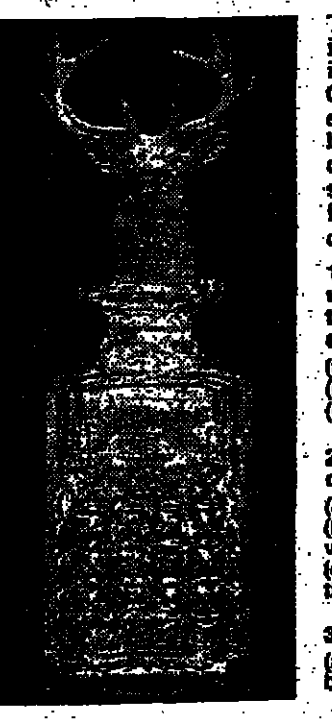
An official report into Crookham Court private boarding school for boys has declared that it is "dangerous, dirty, draughty, dilapidated and dispiriting". This will greatly reassure all parents of present pupils, and is already provoking a flood of new recruits.

Parents have long believed that there is no point in forking out good money for their children to be taught in clean, new buildings by preselectable, broad-minded teachers. The great Public School tradition demands that teachers be monstrosities (but only on one side), gangrenous and bemonocled, boasting military titles of their own invention and performing their duties in ice-cold Nissen huts, choc-a-bloc with bats, rats and asbestos.

Many of our - ahem - newer public schools are launching appeals to bring them in line with the standards maintained by Crookham Court. "With an extra £25,000, we could fill our ornamental fountain with detritus, remove an arm from head master, incorporate a live electric wire into each of our open-air dormitories and still have money left to have the school hall professionally dispirited," writes one headmaster. Once all these chores are completed, this particular school is confident of its election to the Headmasters' Conference.

THF plans for Heaven include, on-site solarium, a choice of cocktail lounges and full health facilities. Rumour has it that if Lord Forte is successful in his takeover, he will ease staff relations between the two companies by asking God to sit at his right hand, at least for the time being.

## Whisky with a touch of glass



To celebrate more than a century as an independent family company distilling whisky in the heart of the Scottish Highlands, William Grant & Sons has commissioned a limited edition of a unique decanter "Royal Scot" hand-cut in the traditional "Royal Scot" design and fitted with a silver stag's head stopper. The decanter is filled with Glenfiddich whisky which has aged 30 years in oak casks, and sell at 1,300 guineas (£1,365) each.

1. Whisky can be spelled with or without an "e". Does the spelling "whiskey" signify?  
(a) approval by the EEC?  
(b) extra strength?  
(c) it's not Scotch?
2. Does the word whisky derive from  
(a) the Gaelic for water of life?  
(b) the drink's origin in the village of Wilske?  
(c) the machine used to brush the grain?
3. Is a single malt  
(a) whisky made from malted barley of one distillery?

One is the prize in the The Times/Glenfiddich Quiz competition. Simply put the letter - (a) or (b) or (c) - which you think is the right answer beside the number of each question, and send to the address on the coupon below to arrive not later than Friday, November 11. This competition is not open to News International employees and their families. The first all-correct solution opened will win the prize.

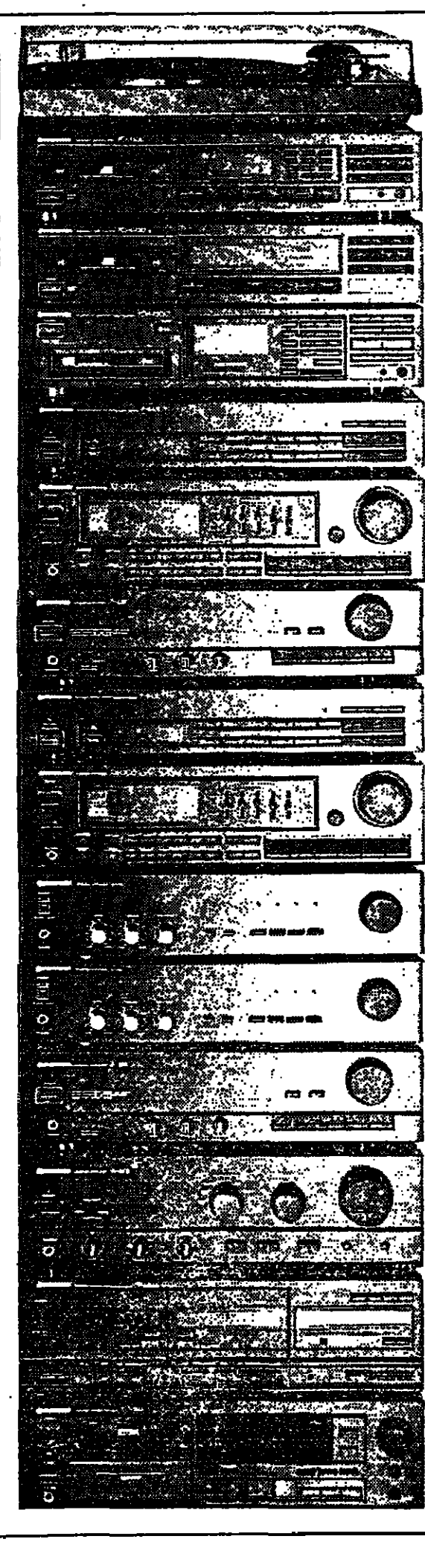
- (b) a barley shock?
- (c) one sixth of a girl?
4. Does Glenfiddich mean  
(a) the valley of the fiddle?  
(b) the valley of the deer?  
(c) the valley of the wide ditch?
5. Which is the most valuable export from Scotland's ports?  
(a) whisky  
(b) North Sea oil  
(c) herring
6. What is the meaning of the Scottish toast, *Slaith mhaith*?  
(a) Good health  
(b) Here's mud in your eye  
(c) Cheers

Send your entries to: The Times Glenfiddich Competition, c/o Features Department, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 6XN to arrive not later than Friday, November 11.

ANSWERS

1. 4  
2. 5  
3. 6

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## MORE FROM MOSCOW

Mr Gorbachov has taken hold of the strings to the hearts of the West — and he is not letting go. On Wednesday the objects of his propaganda campaign were the campaigners for human rights. Yesterday it was the turn of a smaller but no less important group — the US and European supporters of the Strategic Defence Initiative.

By freeing "all" political prisoners, he hopes to remove European obstacles to the human rights conference which he wants to bring to Moscow as a symbol of Soviet respectability. By offering to destroy component parts of the Soviet Union's anti-ballistic missile system, he hopes to remove a key supporting argument to the case for SDI.

Only by winning respectability can he attract the financial assistance from the West which he needs to rebuild the communist economy. Only by stopping the development of SDI, can he avoid the battle to match the US programme — a battle whose massive expense will stop perestroika in its tracks.

The Soviet ABM system includes a long-range phased-array radar at Krasnoyarsk in Siberia, and a number of mobile medium and short-range radars, the Flat Twin and Pawn Shop components mentioned by the Soviet spokesman, Mr Gerasimov, yesterday. Together they can identify Western ballistic missiles on take-off, track them in mid-flight and intercept them.

The existence of this chain of equipment, however imperfect it might be, has been an important part of the argument for a US strategic shield. By apparently being prepared to destroy "Flat Spin" and "Pawn Shop" and to discuss modifications of Krasnoyarsk — without specific linkage to any US action — Mr Gorbachov can hope to soften US enthusiasm for SDI. Neither of the potential US presidents is, even without the Soviet move, as keen on the programme as Mr Reagan. The offer on

Krasnoyarsk is not entirely new. Last month Mr Gorbachov himself proposed transforming it into an international civilian space centre — and transferring it from the military to the seemingly more benign control of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. This was greeted with justified scepticism in Washington, which insisted that the base should be dismantled.

Now however, Mr Gerasimov has confirmed and amplified his leader's offer. "Demilitarization" had previously been dismissed by the US on the grounds that it could easily be reversed. But by now offering to dismantle the "wagons" altogether the Russians have thrown the ball back to the Pentagon.

One target of this latest Soviet offer is the United States' own phased-array radar station on Greenland — and another being built at Fylingdales in Britain. Until now the USSR has demanded that the Americans show willingness to abandon these installations of their own before surrendering to US demands on Krasnoyarsk. It now seems that they have decided to act unilaterally — and challenge the US Administration to respond.

On the assumption that they carry out their word, one effect could be to ease progress at the strategic arms reduction talks in Geneva. Accusations and counter-accusations have been hurled at each side by the other over violations of the ABM Treaty ever since the talks began.

But the more important and more specific Soviet objective must be to embarrass the Americans over SDI — the defensive system of which the Soviet Union is most afraid. Sir Geoffrey Howe was right to point out yesterday the success of recent Western policy in forcing beneficial changes in the Soviet Union. It is to be hoped that his words are well heeded — in Rome, Bonn, and Washington.

## BENEFITTING THE NEEDY

Children in need will be better off as a result of the decisions announced in the House of Commons by the Social Services Secretary, Mr John Moore, yesterday. That is the most reassuring outcome of the public spending round for social security. It is one which should not be lost sight of in recriminations over the decision to freeze child benefit for the second year running.

The net result will be a saving in public spending. There is no need for the Government to try to disguise that. But part of the point of targeting benefits more precisely is to cut down on the pointless process of taking out of one well-fined pocket and putting the proceeds into another of the same kind. This kind of merry-go-round in which the £50 billion social security budget plays a crucial part is an administrative absurdity and a poor way of allocating resources.

Mr Moore has already been able to use some of the savings to give more to those who really depend on the State. They will get more than they would have if child benefit had been uprated.

This is particularly true of the neediest category of families — those where the breadwinner is unemployed and who are entirely dependent on income support. Those arguing in favour of child benefit uprating seldom notice — or seldom acknowledge — that simply uprating CB would help these families not at all. Every £1 increase in child benefit would come off their entitlement to income support. But the higher income support payments announced by Mr Moore will be a real, if modest, benefit.

The other category which will benefit from the changes is the working families on low incomes where the proposed rise in family

credit will take child support further up the income scale. The problem here is the relatively low level of take-up.

Hopes that take-up would rise above one in two of those eligible — the experience with family credit's predecessor, family income supplement — have not so far been realized. Although it is early days yet, Mr Moore's latest changes will tend to increase the number of people with small entitlements which they may not bother to collect.

The better off will get nothing, at least in the way of extra benefit. But it is difficult to argue that they should. The idea that society as a whole should contribute to the rearing of the next generation by a transfer from the childless to those shouldering the burden of bringing up children may be acceptable in principle. But it is surely unacceptable in practice if it implies, as it does, the relatively poor contributing to the relatively rich.

What one misses in yesterday's statement is some imaginative initiative to offset the political deficit of freezing child benefit. Altering the terms of cold weather payments to apply to any consecutive seven days rather than any consecutive seven days starting on a Monday is all very well (it is scarcely credible to the non-Whitehall mind that it should ever have been otherwise) but it is not the stuff to set the order papers waving.

There is still a case for re-opening the question of the structure of social security as a whole. It is easier to devise an acceptable package in which the pluses will outnumber the minuses within the context of an overall review than it is by piecemeal decisions taken in the pressure-cooker of an annual spending round.

## NEW CLOTHES FOR MR PERES

The Middle East will be going to the polls next week in Israel's general election. Now President Mitterrand too has cast his vote.

Three months ago the outlook was bleak for Mr Shimon Peres, Foreign Minister and leader of Israel's Labour Party. After dithering for years about Jordan's role on the West Bank, King Hussein finally made up his mind — and pulled out altogether. As Labour's plan for the Arab-Israeli issue had rested on holding peace talks with Hussein, Mr Peres was suddenly left without a policy.

Last weekend, however, moderate Arab leaders contrived to give Israel's Foreign Minister a set of new clothes. King Hussein, President Mubarak of Egypt and Iraq's Saddam Hussein held a series of meetings with Mr Yasser Arafat of the Palestine Liberation Organization. Their aim was to construct a moderate front which could hold the ring in Arab-Israeli peace talks.

At least part of their aim was to give a helping hand to Mr Peres. In the first place, the reconciliation between the PLO and Jordan, after two years of sterile separation, once more restored to Labour the prospect of a joint Arab delegation which might not only seem acceptable in Jerusalem but could be willing to make sensible progress towards a settlement. In the second place, the PLO is said to be working towards an historic declaration on Israel's right to exist — a condition on which all parties there must insist.

The Arab leaders have made little secret of their preference for an outright Peres victory. On Monday the PLO went so far as to urge not only Jewish voters but Israel's Arab minority too (who make up 14 per cent of the electorate) to make sure that they keep out the right-wing Likud Party, under its leader Mr Yitzhak Shamir, Israel's present Prime Minister. A victory for Mr Shamir, who is wholly opposed to exchanging land for peace, would spell (say the Arabs) disaster for the region.

The Labour Party has (not surprisingly) welcomed this Arab initiative. Cautious approval has come from the United States, which has invested heavily itself in the peace process. Now President Mitterrand also, at a Franco-Egyptian summit, has added his

blessing. And while Britain has so far refrained from public comment, Whitehall is broadly in favour of the story so far.

This does not mean that Mr Peres is home and dry. For one thing the latest Arab statements have been strong on rhetoric but noticeably weak on substance. Moreover the next chapter looks blurred.

For instance, the PLO's declaration on Israel's right to exist will probably not be written until an emergency session of the PLO's parliament, the Palestine National Council, on November 12 in Algiers. The choice of words too is expected to be cautious. Rumour has it that it will refer to the coexistence of "two states in the land of Palestine".

Many Palestinians fear that they are about to play their last card in their 40-year struggle for statehood. They want to see more reliable international guarantees before granting direct recognition of Israel.

Such evasive prose may not be enough to satisfy modern Israel — even if it is led by the pragmatic Shimon Peres. But it is more than enough to infuriate the more radical Palestinians — as well as a disruptive Syria. It is probably fortunate for Labour that the election will have been held more than 10 days before. Israeli hopes of progress under a moderate Labour leadership may thus be safely raised — without the disappointment which would follow an Arab "cop out".

This is assuming, of course, that the electorate favours Labour policies in the first place. Mr Shamir is already trying to capitalize on the situation by playing on Israel's pride and fears. Their Arab enemies, says Likud, are trying to influence Israel's own election — and the Labour Party is playing into their hands. Mr Peres and, for that matter, King Hussein, have already on separate occasions looked in danger of overplaying their hand — and arousing the suspicions of a wary and politically sophisticated Israeli electorate.

The Arabs have given Mr Peres a new suit of clothes of which he was badly in need. His worry must be that too many in the electorate might see through them.

## Arguments about union in Europe

From Mr J. P. Maurice  
Sir, You report (October 26) that members of the European Parliament are demanding full union. A prerequisite for real union must be the ending of national blocks in the European Parliament itself, to produce a genuinely European view as opposed to an alliance of national views.

The way to achieve this would be to reorganise the parliamentary seats so that they are based on a ward system. Each seat would have, say, four wards with each in a different country. The mix of wards and countries would be so organised as to ensure an even distribution across the Community as a whole, to prevent the emergence of supra-national blocks. An added refinement would be to stop the national of any State standing for a seat with a ward in his own country.

This system would guarantee that the members of the Parliament would themselves have to reconcile conflicting national interests and explain them to their own electors. It would aid the development of genuine supra-national political parties. It would also test the real depth of commitment to European unity, both in members of the Parliament and the member states.

Might we perhaps see that the commitment to a united Europe does not extend this far?  
Yours faithfully,  
J. P. MAURICE,  
Mitchell's, 34 Hill Road,  
Oakley, Nr Basingstoke,  
Hampshire,  
October 26.

From Mr David J. Price  
Sir, Mr William Cash, MP ("No to the Euro-plotters", October 25) seems to be defending a mirage of sovereignty. Effective sovereignty requires a solid political base. National sovereignty for a country as small as Great Britain is less and less realistic. We have lost little to our European neighbours. We are losing more and more to the USA, USSR, and Japan.

Such Europeans as Peter Sutherland, Egon Klepsch, and Siegfried Alber — who is urging democratic

control of Community matters through a stronger European Parliament — are not "Euro-plotters". They are addressing issues of real concern for British citizens — even though many British politicians choose to ignore them.

Such issues include how Western Europe can properly compete with USA and Japan; how businessmen can effectively buy and sell without losing profits because of adverse exchange-rate movements; how the Community can achieve an internal democratic cohesion as a civilian super power to balance the preponderance of the Gorbachev-style USSR in our "European home"; how all of us can have proper representation now we all pay European taxes.

If Mr Cash thinks the arguments are about bottled mineral water, he is in the wrong debate.  
Yours etc.,  
DAVID J. PRICE,  
4 rue de la Forge,  
L-1535 Luxembourg,  
October 26.

From Mr Bryan Cassidy, MEP for Dorset East and Hampshire West (European Democrat (Conservative))  
Sir, Bill Cash's excellent analysis omitted an important issue — the lack of accountability of the Commission as a civil service.

Although the commissioners are ultimately accountable, their officials are not. There is no principle of ministerial responsibility as we would recognise it in the United Kingdom. On occasion this has led to individual commissioners being severely embarrassed by the actions of quite junior officials in the Berlaymont building.

Problems of accountability are here and now. The question of federalism does not come into it. The Commission is an increasingly powerful body which has to be made democratically accountable.  
Yours faithfully,  
BRYAN CASSIDY,  
Constituency HQ,  
The Stables, White Cliff Gardens,  
Blandford, Dorset,  
October 26.

## Family allowances

From the Chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission  
Sir, The Equal Opportunities Commission warmly welcomes news (report, October 25) of the Government's "equality-proofing" system to ensure all legislation is discrimination-free. At a time of increasing international competition and skills shortages, due to fewer young people coming into the labour market, it makes sound economic sense.

However, the news that child benefit is yet again to be frozen is not welcome. There are good reasons, not only for keeping child benefit, but for up-rating it in line with inflation.

We would like to see the Government reconcile its dual concerns about the family and the skills shortage by translating its belief in equal opportunities into positive, as well as "equality proofing" action.

Combining work with family responsibilities is hard. Women, and men, want to be able to do this in an effective and responsible way. Quality, accessible and affordable child care is as much in the interests of parents and their children as it is for employers and the country.  
Yours faithfully,  
JOANNA FOSTER, Chairman,  
Equal Opportunities Commission,  
Overseas House,  
Oray Street,  
Manchester.

## Comparative values

From Mr Graham Todd  
Sir, To answer the question raised by Mr Brinsley Black (October 26), the amounts being spent to save two grey whales are in addition to those spent feeding starving children and other excellent causes, not in place of.

Yours faithfully,  
D. C. G. TODD,  
45 Cloncurry Street, SW6,  
October 26.

From Mrs Stella M. Lilley  
Sir, Let us hope that God has a sense of humour while he watches a group of his creatures trying to rescue a couple of whales at enormous expense, in one corner of the world, while just a few thousand miles away, others are cheerfully and profitably killing as many of that species as possible.  
Yours faithfully,  
STELLA M. LILLEY,  
Kingsdown Park House,  
Tankerton, Kent,  
October 25.

## Church funding

From the Reverend Ralph Stringer  
Sir, Nigel Andrews, in his "Out and about" report (October 22) says that there is surprisingly little difference between a redundant church and one still in use. As a priest with responsibility for one of each category I must tell him what the difference is.

Our redundant church, a Jacobean beauty in a deserted hamlet, a mile and a half from a metalled road, receives State subsidy for all its repairs to the tune of 75 per cent of the total cost. The balance comes from various resources within the Redundant Churches Fund, but a large proportion of those are from the Church Commissioners — the Church of England's paymasters.

The church which is in use has one of the finest hammer-beam

roofs in England, is rattled every minute by heavy goods vehicles on an extremely busy main street and visited by hundreds of tourists each year, but over 60 per cent of the total cost of repairs is borne by the people of the town and parish. It needs to be rewired to ensure that the roof is not destroyed by fire, but the £7,000 needed for that will not be funded by any grant-making body or by the Church Commissioners because wiring is "purely functional" and not of aesthetic interest.

Carboys and souvenir stalls seem to be the only way of making visitors aware that churches in use for regular worship receive relatively little aid to maintain the

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (01)782 5046.

## House moves as a cause of stress

From Dr Robin G. Lambert  
Sir, A great deal of the mental and physical ill health in Britain is caused by frequent house moves. Much of the blame for this must be laid at the doors of our national firms, including insurance companies, banks, major businesses, and industrial firms.

In my work as a general practitioner I see families disrupted by repeated moves. The sequence starts with the husband's promotion from one area to another. Months may go by before his wife and children are able to move to live with him again.

In the meantime he is, in effect, a single man, living in a strange town, away from home comforts. He is easy prey to an extra-marital affair, while his wife and family become used to life without him.

When the family are reunited tensions develop because the individuals have established their own separate needs. Just as the husband/wife relationship is being re-established, the firm springs another move, and the sequence starts all over again.

Extra-marital affairs and divorce run high in these groups.

## Jury service

From Mr Hugh W. Mellor  
Sir, My experience of jury service (two weeks in 1980) was happier than that of some of your interviewees (Spectrum, October 24). I came away impressed with how hard an average group will struggle to produce a fair verdict. But if it is an average group it will include people with inadequacies and prejudices — no one should be surprised at that — and so the exercise will be painful and possibly long.

It will be greatly helped if it finds a good foreman to chair its deliberations; and that is where the system is very weak.

How can a group whose members know nothing about one another choose a suitable person? The talkative, self-important, and probably therefore most unsuitable, person is the most likely to be nominated. This was my experience. Any reform should address itself to this question.

The system must certainly revert to being based on random selection — from the preparation of the list of those eligible to the selection of jurors to try a particular case. I have seen the right to challenge gravely misused. That results in the group not being average, with the sorts of problems arising which your reports describe.

Yours faithfully,  
HUGH W. MELLOR,  
Lark Rise, Risborough Road,  
Great Kimble,  
Aylesbury,  
Buckinghamshire,  
October 25.

## Promises, promises

From Mr B. Benjamin  
Sir, The full-page advertisement, "An apology and a promise", inserted by the Post Office in today's issue (October 24), would carry more conviction and assurance for the future if it had been countersigned by the general secretaries and executive members of the appropriate trade unions.

Their endorsement of the management's message would go a long way to create new confidence that this historic and, hitherto, remarkably efficient institution had a viable future.

Yours faithfully,  
B. BENJAMIN,  
49 London Road,  
Northwich,  
Cheshire,  
October 24.

## Right to silence

From Mr Rex Bryan  
Sir, Today, a guilty man who is cautioned by the police will say "No comment" to any questions he is asked. The jury who try him are told not to draw any adverse inference from such an exercise of his rights.

Tomorrow, if he says "no comment" the jury will be told that they may infer his guilt from his silence.

But what if tomorrow's man says: "I strenuously deny the allegations you make against me, but my solicitor has advised me not to answer your questions today, but to give a full explanation to the jury in due course".

Can any adverse inferences be drawn from such a reply?  
Yours sincerely,  
REX BRYAN,  
5 Pump Court,  
Temple, EC4,  
October 26.

and the resultant effects on all members of the family are seen in the GP's surgery.

Even if husband and wife remain loyal, the children are badly affected by frequent changes of school and friends, leading to poor performances, psychological problems, and often delinquency.

One accepts that promotion of personnel around the country is essential in these large organisations, but I have long felt that the frequency and number of these moves is unnecessary, and imposed on the employee with little or no thought for the well being of the individual and his family. Worse beside the employee who turns down such a move.

This is a potent source of ill-health in Britain, and I feel that urgent consideration should be given at the highest levels of business to halt the perpetuation of this system. I have a black list of the worst offenders!

Yours faithfully,  
ROBIN G. LAMBERT,  
Brockley Chase,  
Cleve,  
Bristol, Avon,  
October 22.

## Lorries in the dark

From Mrs Barbara J. McElney  
Sir, Over the past few years I have witnessed with horror the identical road accident three times, each at night in the rain, with poor visibility.

Junctions allow side roads to cross dual carriageways to the opposite side road; when an articulated lorry or long vehicle crosses it often has to stop half way for oncoming traffic. In the darkness the lorry, being sideways, is totally unseen, many have no warning lights or a few red lights which give the appearance of a motor bike rear light.

Surely it is time all long vehicles had a wide luminous paintstrip along the length of the vehicle, headlights from oncoming cars would light up the strip and accidents like these could be avoided.  
Yours sincerely,  
BARBARA J. MCELNEY,  
Fawn Ridge, Chollacott Lane,  
Tavistock, Devon,  
October 21.

## Shadow of time

From Mr Nicholas Martin  
Sir I wish to comment about the controversial matter of abolishing Greenwich Mean Time in 1992 (report, October 24).

I think half-an-hour should be added to the present GMT and the clocks left on that for ever and ever. This is a compromise between those who believe we should remain on wintertime GMT and those who believe we should be on British summertime.

As a schoolboy, half-an-hour more of daylight in winter would mean I would not come home in the dark and nor would other schoolchildren.  
Yours faithfully,  
N. MARTIN (aged 14),  
12 Willow Road, NW3,  
October 24.

## Exciting mathematics

From the President of the London Mathematical Society  
Sir, The Council of the London Mathematical Society dissociates itself from the views on mathematics expressed (October 10) by Professor Emeritus Lawden. The dreariness that he sees in mathematics lies in the eye of the beholder.

Professor Lawden is mistaken in thinking that elliptic integrals are no longer taught in this country; in one guise or another they still occupy the centre stage of mathematics (especially in number theory), and are indeed taught at Cambridge and other British universities.

As to his complaints about topology and functional analysis, they are not only profound and beautiful subjects in their own right, but are also fundamental to the conceptual understanding of differential equations. An example is their application to chaos, enabling scientists to explain phenomena that were previously thought to be intractable.

Mathematics is currently entering a new phase of intense interaction between pure and applied, and today's students find the impact of this research upon their teaching very exciting.  
Yours faithfully,  
E. C. ZEEMAN,  
London Mathematical Society,  
Hertford College, Oxford,  
October 20.

## Biter bit?

From Dr R. V. Sykes  
Sir, I have a replacement for the old phrase-book classic, "The postilion has been struck by lightning".

Recently, in my own swimming pool, I lost a front tooth, subsequently recovered from the filter two days later. In Granada, Spain, two weeks ago, when swimming in their 50-metre pool, I lost the same tooth.

"Can you recover my tooth from your filter?" was the phrase needed for the pool attendant. Neither my phrase book, nor my Spanish was adequate for retrieval.

Yours faithfully,  
R. V. SYKES,  
Carrantuohill, Bare Lane,  
Ockbrook, Derby,  
October 15.





## COURT AND SOCIAL

### COURT CIRCULAR

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
October 27: His Excellency Mr Mohamed I. Shaker was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Arab Republic of Egypt to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the Embassy who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Mr Ali Salman (Minister Plenipotentiary), Mr Roushdy Barakat (Minister Plenipotentiary), Brigadier Mohamed El Salawy (Defence Attaché), Dr Younes El Batrik (Counsellor, Cultural Affairs), Dr Anwar Galal Shawky (Counsellor, Press and Information), Mr Samir Darwish (Counsellor, Tourism), Mr Adel El Badi (Counsellor, Consular Affairs), Mr Essam Shohdy (Counsellor, Consular Affairs).

Mr Shaker had the honour of being received by Her Majesty. Sir John Fretwell, Deputy Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty, was present and the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Sir Kingsford Diblea was received in audience by The Queen prior to the relinquishing of his appointment as Lord in Waiting to Her Majesty.

The Queen, The Duke of Edinburgh, The Duchess of Gloucester and The Prince Edward today attended the Royal Gala performance of *The Tempest* at the National Theatre to mark its 25th Anniversary.

Having been received on arrival by the Lord Rayne (Chairman of the National Theatre), Her Majesty unveiled a commemorative plaque.

The Marchioness of Aberghavenny, Miss Jennifer Thompson, the Right Hon Sir William Heseltine and Lieutenant-Commander Timothy Laurence, RN were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the English-Speaking Union of the Commonwealth, this morning attended the opening session of the BBC World Service Seminar "A Language for the World" at Bush House, The Strand, London WC2.

Mr John Haslam was in attendance.

By command of The Queen, the Viscount Long (Lord in

Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London this afternoon upon the departure of the Governor-General of Papua New Guinea and Lady Diblea, and bade farewell to Their Excellencies on behalf of Her Majesty.

The Princess Royal this afternoon opened a new hospital at The Querns, Cirencester, Gloucestershire (Mr D. Leahy, Chairman, Cheltenham and District Health Authority). Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Gloucestershire (Colonel M. St J. V. Gibbs), Mrs Andrew Feilden was in attendance.

This evening, The Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief, the Royal Corps of Signals, attended the Master's Dinner at the Officers' Mess, Blandford Camp, Blandford Forum, Dorset. Mrs Charles Ritchie was in attendance.

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
October 27: The Duke of Gloucester left Heathrow Airport, London, this morning to visit Moscow.

**YORK HOUSE, ST JAMES'S PALACE**  
October 27: The Duke of Kent, Patron, today attended the British Computer Society's Award Ceremony at The Courtyard Rooms, London WC2 and later, as President of King Edward VII's Hospital for Officers, attended a Meeting at the Council of Agnes Keyser House, London W1.

Captain Charles Page was in attendance.

This evening His Royal Highness attended a performance of *The Winterreise* at the Royal College of Music.

Sir Richard Buckley was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent, Honorary Colonel of the Yorkshire Regiment, today received Lieutenant Colonel T. J. Isles on his appointment as Commanding Officer of the 4th Battalion, Her Royal Highness also received Lieutenant Colonel G. B. Smalley on assuming command of the 2nd Battalion and Lieutenant Colonel P. D. Gardner on relinquishing the appointment.

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**Mr D.G. Bentley and Miss S.L. Hills**  
The engagement is announced between David, younger son of Mrs B. Bentley, of Glendale, California, and the late Mr W. Bentley, and Sarah, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs David Hills, of St Albans, Hertfordshire.

**Mr R.M. Coldicott and Miss F.H. Boyd**  
The engagement is announced between Mr R. Martin Coldicott, of Martin's Restaurant, Baker Street, London, third son of Mr and Mrs P.R. Coldicott, and Miss Hilary Boyd, younger daughter of Mr S.M. Boyd, of Co Londonderry, and the late Mr S.M. Boyd.

**Mr G.S.K. Davies and Miss A.M. Ozzanne**  
The engagement is announced between Aryn, youngest son of Mr and Mrs J.P. Davies, of Burgess Hill, West Sussex, and Allison Marie, only daughter of Mr and Mrs A.C. Ozzanne, of Guernsey, Channel Islands.

**Mr W.N. Downs and Miss C.A. Morphet**  
The engagement is announced between William, eldest son of Mr and Mrs J.P. Downs, of Romilly House, Station Road, Keighley, West Yorkshire, and Catherine, second daughter of Mr F. Morphet and the late Mr R.W. Morphet, of Newton Hall, Gargrave, Skipton, North Yorkshire.

**Mr A. Gradel and Miss L. Sarir**  
The engagement is announced between Aryn, youngest son of Mr and Mrs J.P. Gradel, of Manchester, and Lillie, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Yehouda Sarir, of Hale, Cheshire.

**Mr M.C. Hest and Miss G.L. Strawn**  
The engagement is announced between Mark, third son of Major and Mrs J.G. Hest, of Baisford, Suffolk, and Laurel, eldest daughter of Mrs H.D. Meeks and Mr D.U. Strawn, of Melbourne and Orlando, Florida, USA.

**Mr P.W. Ingham and Mrs J.B. Cornfield**  
The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Major F.R. Ingham, and the late Mrs E.M. Ingham, of Bellwood Hall, Ripon, and Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs R.M. Burton, of The Old Rectory, Slingsby.

**Mr T.W. Harris and Miss K.M. Jones**  
The engagement is announced between Tobias William, son of Mr and Mrs C.D. Harris, of Langsart House, Swallowcliffe, Oxfordshire, and Karen Margaret, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs D.W.S. Jones, of Sycamore, Overhorne, Northamptonshire.

**Major T.D.R. James and Miss J.F.M. Briggs**  
The engagement is announced between Major Jimmy James, Royal Horse Artillery, eldest son of Mr N.D.G. James, OBE, MC, TD, and the late Mrs James, of Budleigh Salterton, Devon, and Jane, younger daughter of Captain E.W. Briggs, DSC, RN (ret), and Mrs Briggs, of Axfield Patch, Lacock, Wiltshire.

**Dr S.G. Lisseter and Miss P.E. Seward**  
The engagement is announced between Stephen, only son of the late Michael Peter Lisseter and Mrs Jean Arman, of Stratford-upon-Avon, and Pamela, daughter of Professor and Mrs Gordon Seward, of Barnet, Hertfordshire.

**Mr M.F. Moore and Miss E.S. Coburn**  
The engagement is announced between Michael Frederick, younger son of Canon and Mrs Denholm Moore, of Finsbury Rectory, Ballykelly, Co Londonderry, and Elizabeth Sara, only daughter of Mr G.M. Coburn, of Thames Ditton, Surrey, and Mrs Annabel Florde, of Portadown, Co Armagh, Northern Ireland.

**Mr I. Perkins and Miss L. Doyle**  
The engagement is announced between Ian, eldest son of Mr and Mrs P.O.C. White, of Captain and Mrs R.C. Read, of Ashill, Somerset, and Beatrice, only daughter of Mr and Mrs U. Pedrini, of Sanremo, Italy.

**Mr J.M. White and Miss J.L. Stuard**  
The engagement is announced between Jonathan Mark, son of Mr and Mrs P.O.C. White, of Captain and Mrs R.C. Read, of Ashill, Somerset, and Joanna Louise, second daughter of Mr and Mrs K.C. Stuard, of Chesham Bois, Buckinghamshire.

**Mr F.P. Sharpe and Miss A.S.J. Mason**  
The engagement is announced between Freddy, younger son of Mr and Mrs Frederick Sharpe, of Walmer, Kent, and Alison, younger daughter of His Honour Peter Mason, QC, of Amberley, Gloucestershire, and Mrs Faith Mason, of Finchley, London.

**Mr R.M. Salmons and Miss B.S. Smith**  
The engagement is announced between Roger, only son of Mr and Mrs R.F. Salmons, of Hampton Hill, Middlesex, and Bernice, only daughter of Mr and Mrs R.M. Smith, of Boxmoor, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire.

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## Forthcoming marriages

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## ROYAL LONDON SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND

## Blind — and efficient

Pat Blair reports on the society, which is now celebrating 150 years of development

It comes as something of a surprise to walk into a precision-engineering factory, full of lethal pieces of high-speed equipment, only to realize that the men confidently moving around, turning capstans and pressing buttons within millimetres of whirling metal, are all blind or as visually handicapped as makes little difference.

Many visitors to the Royal London Society for the Blind's engineering workshops, at Queen's Park, in north London, have a similar reaction, according to Ron Pocock, secretary general of the society which is now celebrating its 150th anniversary.

Several of the callers are businessmen from whom the society hopes to win orders in open competition with other light-engineering companies. Its success in doing so is reflected by the customers it has on its books: Hawker Siddeley, Guinness, Lister Petter and Lucas Electrical among them.

The 150-year milestone marks a series of changes a

thousand light years away from the society's beginnings in January 1838, as the London Society for Teaching the Blind to Read. In those early days, blind people were learning to read using the system of embossed type invented by Thomas Lucas of Bristol.

The system was introduced to London in 1837, 17 years before Louis Braille's invention of raised print was adopted in France, and 24 years before the society almost certainly became the first place to introduce Braille in Britain.

Education then, as now, was a primary aim of the society. Its day school, originally in Fitzroy Street, moved to Bloomsbury and opened places to resident pupils. Within two years, it was offering students lessons in practical skills — basket-making, knitting and netting — a forerunner to education for employment.

As the need grew, the school transferred to larger premises in Bloomsbury until, in 1847, the society took out a 96-year lease on a site at Swiss Cottage for a

purpose-built school, which opened the following year. There it remained, growing and expanding its activities, until the outbreak of the Second World War, when the children were evacuated from London to Doriton House, a large manor house in Buckinghamshire.

The move to Seal, near Sevenoaks, in Kent — where it still is — was made in 1954, when the school took with it the name of the Buckinghamshire manor. Doriton House now caters for 112 day and boarding students, 94 of them in the school and 18 at the £1.4 million college of further education which has just opened in the grounds of the renovated mansion house.

Peter Talbot, described by Mr Pocock as "the best and most experienced teacher of the

blind in the country", has been headmaster for the past 18 months. His is the job of overseeing the extensive changes being brought about with the expansion of the further education facilities for students over the age of 16.

As with schools throughout the country, Doriton House has also been grappling with the new GCSE examination. It had 60 entries from 14 candidates last year, when the examination was brought in. They achieved an average D grade, also the national average. Mr Talbot says: "Our results in English language, literature, history, French and home economics were very good. Maths and science were disappointing, although on the whole we are pleased with the standard of their work."

Mathematics and science demonstrated some of the problems of the new examination, now being taken up with the examining board. The use of pictorial representations is heavily geared towards the sighted and some of the tactile diagrams were "not very good."

Though the visually handicapped are given extra time during the examination, it proved to be not enough. However, the introduction of project work was an advantage for Doriton House students because it gave time for them to produce work of a good standard.

Not all the pupils, who range upwards from the age of five, are totally blind; they also fall into the categories of partially sighted and visually handicapped, abbreviated in student jargon to "totals", "partials" or "visuals".

Some, such as Raymond St Cyr and Elizabeth Moore, both aged 16, can see but their visual impairment is such that they have transferred from mainstream schools. Elizabeth, a lively veteran in her second year at Doriton House, is for example also doing a course in Braille to help prepare her for the future. Having gained four O-level equivalents, she may go on to A levels.

She says: "The staff are really helpful but you can't get away with as much as you can in mainstreams."

Raymond, who started at



High-tech preparation: Peter Talbot with second-year pupil Elizabeth Moore

Doriton House only this term, agrees. "But everyone is so friendly," he adds. He had settled in happily by the end of his first week.

Most children are five-day boarders, going home every weekend.

After-school activities range wide and include learning to canoe in the school's swimming pool.

In recent years, technological advances have worked to the benefit of blind people. Computers can "speak" what has been written; an earphone keeps the words confined to the user. Material put into a Braille computer can also spill out typed copy as well as a Braille version and thus be used by the sighted. Much of such equipment is available to Doriton House, bought with money raised by local people and other supporters of the school.

Referred by local education authorities who ultimately pick up the bill, potential pupils go

through Doriton House's assessment centre. The school accepts visually handicapped children with a broad spread of ability, ranging upwards from those with "moderate learning abilities".

"We don't really cater for those with severe learning difficulties; often a school which specializes in such children is more appropriate than we are."

Students are drawn from all over south-east England — Oxfordshire, Hampshire, Wiltshire and Berkshire, although most — about 40 per cent — are from Kent. Fees are £10,950 a year for five-day boarders; £7,665 for day pupils; and £11,750 for further education students, who are seven-day boarders.

A consultant ophthalmologist visits once a week, seeing a wide range of conditions, only about a third of which stem from birth.

In the past, Doriton House

has had applications from parents of under-fives who were placed in infant or reception classes. "Not the best thing for them," Mr Talbot says. The school is now developing a nursery where children can attend part-time until they are of school age. He says: "It will allow us to do rather more and offer more support to parents."

"The important thing for the parent of a blind child is that they keep them active and learning all the time. With a sighted child, learning is almost incidental; give them toys and they get on with it. A blind child needs more active involvement."

Pre-school parent days, once a term, attract around 60 parents to listen to an expert speaker and exchange views with staff and each other. The nursery, which may ultimately accommodate 10 children, will enable more individual contact with parents.



**CONGRATULATE THE ROYAL LONDON SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND ON THEIR 150th ANNIVERSARY**

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Ron Pocock chats to a lathe operator in the workshop

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## The aim is to expand

At the other end of the spectrum, many of the further education students attend the West Kent College, at Tunbridge, for at least part of the time. Some attend for a linked course, one or two days a week. They can enter a job-oriented course, still with an emphasis on core subjects but allowing them to sample different employment areas.

Other students may go directly to A-levels or full-time vocational training courses.

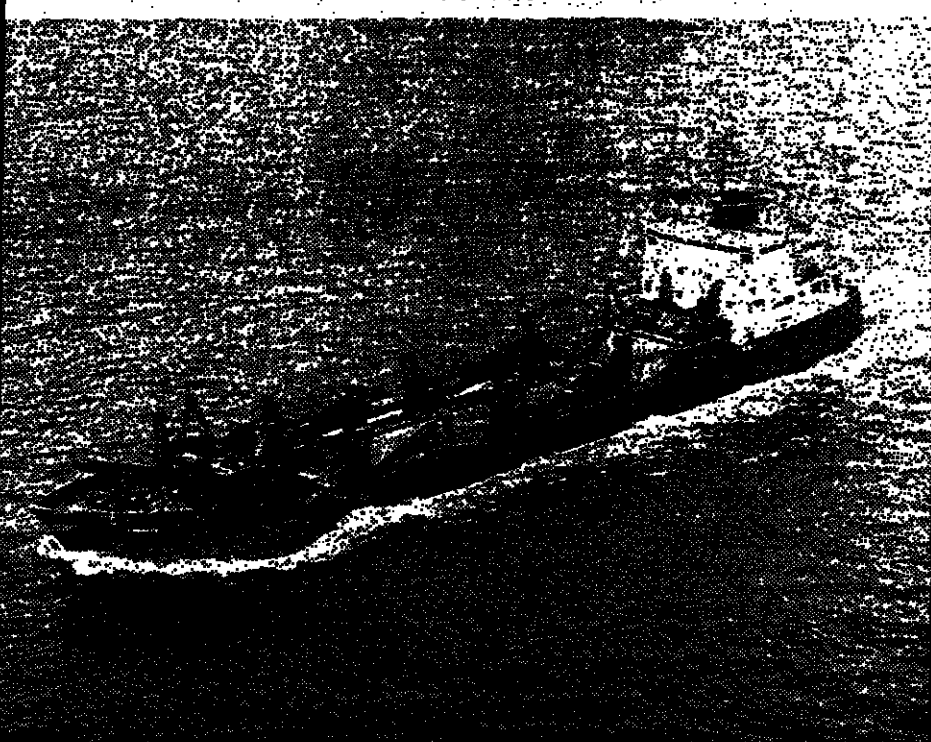
A former student, Julia Schofield, who attended Doriton House until the age of 11, now runs her own computer consultancy business and was named 1987 Business Woman of the Year. Len Williams, another former pupil, became Lord Mayor of the London Borough of Brent, returning to his job at the Queen's Park headquarters at the end of his year of office.

Whatever the employment successes of visually handicapped people, there will always be a place for sheltered workshops, Mr Pocock says. Not everyone is suitable for the government-subsidised sheltered placement in open industry.

Current government restrictions on financing places in sheltered workshops mean that the society is limited in the numbers it can take into employment and training.

The society, however, is determined to continue to expand and be as far-sighted in providing education and training as those who started the process of teaching blind people in the capital to read.

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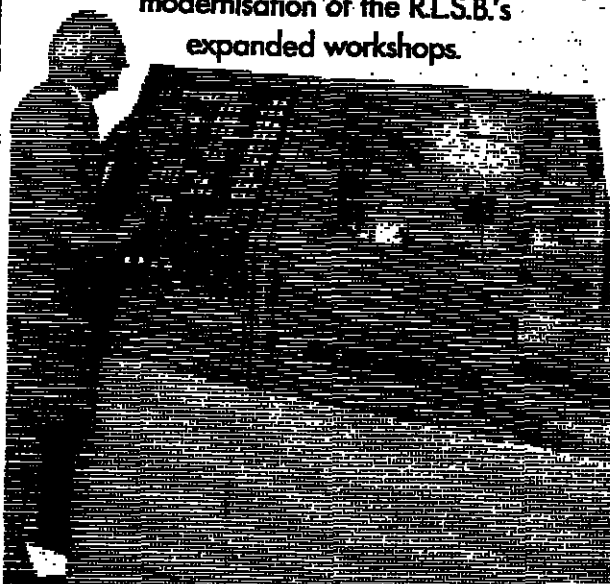
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FRIDAY PAGE

# Growing up behind closed doors

Most of us would hesitate to lock a naughty child in a room for five minutes, such punishments belong to another age. But Ciaran Collins, who committed murder at the age of 12, is to be locked away at Her Majesty's Pleasure - an indefinite sentence.

Last year, 84 children were placed in secure units, after being convicted under Section 53 of the Children and Young Person's Act, for crimes considered too severe to be dealt with by the juvenile courts. Most of them had sentences of two to five years.

Two of the secure units are directly run by the Department of Health as youth treatment centres. The remaining 53 are run by local authorities, often as small annexes to existing child care facilities.

Most of the child inmates will not be convicted criminals, but are locked away for their own protection, because they are regular absconders, or because they cannot be controlled in any other way.

Keeping children in such units is fraught with difficulties. How do you imprison a child? How do you prepare him for the fact that at 18, no matter how well he does, he will not go out to work, but into an adult prison.

In the eight months between his arrest and sentence, Ciaran has been held at St Charles youth treatment centre in Brentwood. But it was difficult to provide the emotional help he needs so badly because he had pleaded not guilty, and so the case could not be discussed. Now psychiatrists and psychologists have the long task of finding out what really lies behind this crime, and the even harder task of getting Ciaran to face up to what he has done.

It seems likely that he will

**Can we really expect children who are sentenced to be detained indefinitely at Her Majesty's Pleasure to become normal adults in society?**  
**Ann Kent reports**

remain in St Charles, where the regime is an inevitably uneasy mix of children's home, hospital and prison. It was built in the Sixties, initially as a Borstal, although it was never used for that purpose. It consists of a large open space - which Ciaran is unlikely to be allowed to enter - and three locked houses.

Attempts are made to make the houses homely with plants, pictures, bright decorations and carpet rather than lino. But doors to the outside are double-locked and the plastic windows only open a few inches. The staff ratio is high, with 13 social workers, nurses and teachers to every 10 children.

Bedrooms are locked at night and unlocked in the morning by the two night staff. Days are a mixture of schoolwork, recreation and individual and group treatment sessions.

One of the main objections to confining children at Her Majesty's Pleasure is that it is hard to define goals for them. "It is also difficult for staff who are trained in rehabilitation to accept that the

children they have tried so hard to help will go to prison when they are 18," said a senior social worker.

He thought that finding a peer group was less difficult than people might imagine. "Most of the children in youth treatment centres have been through the same kind of childhood experiences as Ciaran."

But at 13, Ciaran will be one of the youngest inmates at St Charles. Most are between 15 and 17 and are thus bigger and more established in their disturbed adolescence.

In 1968, when Mary Bell, aged 11, was sentenced to be detained indefinitely for the manslaughter of two boys aged three and four, she spent the first six years of her sentence at a special unit of an approved school for boys. She was transferred at 17 to Styal closed prison in Cheshire, then to Moor Court open prison near Stoke-on-Trent, from which she absconded in 1977.

She was returned to Styal, but two years later was sent to Askham Grange, from which she was released, under licence, in May 1980, shortly before her 23rd birthday.

During the 12 years of her detention she received no psychiatric treatment, although psychiatrists had recommended it.

St Charles takes a psycho-dynamic approach, which means staff will work on children's motivations and help them find their own insight into why the crimes happened.

But can such youth treatment centres really help to turn child murderers into normal citizens? David Pithers, psychotherapist with the National Children's Homes, deals regularly with severely disturbed children,



The disturbing faces of child murderers: Ciaran Collins (left), who killed at the age of 12, and Mary Bell, who killed at 10, pictured shortly before her release in 1980. Bell had no psychiatric treatment during detention; Collins will be luckier - he is to get help in facing up to what he has done

including those who have killed. He says he has never met a child who cannot be helped.

He finds it "amazing" that so few children in care commit murder considering the violence and distress many of them exhibit. "Most of the children we work with are intensely and destructively angry."

Some children are unable to show their fury and disappointment until it suddenly explodes. One withdrawn 16-year-old I knew, with no record of violence, went into the park, took a baby out of its pram, and smashed it to the ground. He had built up an overwhelming resentment of

children, like this baby, who were obviously loved and well cared for.

"From what I can gather, Ciaran is not just typical, he is archetypal. Ironically, there is a good chance his needs will be attended to, while thousands of others will be left to manage."

Terry Bruce, a consultant psychiatrist at Bart's Hospital, who used to work at St James's youth treatment centre, says: "My guess is that this child does not suffer from a psychiatric disorder. His behaviour is probably related to his upbringing and I would guess that his childhood was a lot worse than we have heard."

But how did Ciaran find himself in this position? His father was imprisoned, the marriage broke up, and his stepfather was fined for beating him. Nevertheless, his childhood experiences are no worse than those of thousands of others who will never kill.

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backgrounds are potential killers. Envy and jealousy of those who seem to be having better lives is a big factor. Quite a lot of these murders by children are grievous bodily harm gone wrong. The Home Office ask us every few years if these children are fit to be let out. Safety is their main concern."

Much depends on the ability to form relationships. Terry Bruce says. In Ciaran's case, if this has not occurred by his mid-twenties he fears the outlook will not be good. "Although the chances are that he will not kill again, I doubt if he would ever be a normal young adult."

## Rudely fashioned

Jerusalem - There is a large camel sitting in the garden behind my hotel and it blinks at me as I sit gathering my nerve each morning.

rehearse my lines. "I would like to go to Rome," I say. It cuts no ice with camel or the carriage industry. The taxi drivers lean against their cars looking at me with indifference as I repeat my request.

One of them will eventually shrug and let me inside his taxi with an offended air.

What is it, I wonder. This is the only country outside the socialist ones in which the customer is made to feel like a nuisance. One can queue for 20 minutes at the bank, only to face an angry teller. I suppose it was like that in the UK once, where shoppers always felt as if they had interrupted the very important business of taking inventory.

A couple of Yeshiva students speculated that it was all to do with the early days of Israel, when the emphasis was on workers' rights. It had affected the national character, they said. You are identified with the exploiter of labour, they told me. I don't think this is it. I have seen these taxi drivers and bank tellers after they have emigrated to New York or London and they change their attitudes in a second.

On the other hand, perhaps Israel was the best place to be for a preview of the new fashions from Paris earlier this week. Israeli women are extremely inventive, as I noticed after spending a day on the West Bank with an army patrol. I can't believe that the Defence Ministry actually issues army fatigues for females with trousers that are quite so well-fitted in the waist and buttocks. It certainly adds to the air of congeniality around the barracks, as my escort officer moaned to me while watching a particularly sprightly new recruit. All women are called up at 18 and although it's no picnic, ac-



**BARBARA AMIEL**

tually I can see how from a female point-of-view it wouldn't be too bad. Women, after all, don't get put into the more exposed positions.

Fashion does keep the spirit up in bleak times and knowing this I shouldn't have made the mistake I did when attending a diplomatic function in Tel Aviv. "It's quite informal," said the editor of the *Jerusalem Post*, who invited me. "A buffet in the garden." It turned out to be very chic with ladies in silk dresses sitting on plastic folding chairs, asking about the weather in London. Rather Chekovian, if you see what I mean. I was clearly a disappointment in my crumpled party wear. When I got back to my hotel I borrowed a copy of the *Harold Tribune* from the receptionist and read all about the new look. "Christian Lacroix's collection was a mess," wrote the fashion editor, "but a glorious mess, bubbling like a bouillabaisse with imagination and ideas, rich in its different flavours and sprinkled with spicy colours. It was indigestible, swallowed in a gulp at the end of a long day." It sounds sadly like me on my few particularly good days, I thought hopefully.

The only English-language television in Israel comes from Jordan Television, which is

perfectly all right provided you are ready to take your 10 o'clock news beginning with lots of madly smiling army officers kissing the cheeks and hands of members of the Hashemite royal family. It reminded me of my stay in Egypt some time ago when I discovered that there was only one thing more inefficient than socialism. That is socialism combined with the Middle Eastern love of hierarchy and class.

Wednesday night I was happily watching a nephew of King Hussein kissing a row of bureaucrats when the news made the transition to international stories. It was a bit unsettling to be sitting in Jerusalem listening to Amman blather on about the Russians helping American scientists free a couple of whales. I am always happy, mind you, to see the world get caught up in the heartwarming story of the week but I do hope that all mammals, both hot and cold-blooded, draw the right conclusions from this - which is to draw absolutely no conclusion at all.

I don't know any of the details about the young lady who alleged this week that a taxi driver had raped her. All I know is that she retracted her story after the police had begun a very extensive investigation. Whether or not she should be charged with public mischief is a legitimate question and can only be answered by those who have all the details of the incident. Perhaps she is not of sound mind. What it does remind me of is the very evident truth that while some men rape, some women may lie about being raped. If a complainant's untruthfulness were not available as a defence, in many rape cases there would be no need for a trial. The minute a charge was laid, there would be an automatic conviction. Occasionally, this very evident thought seems to escape some of our more progressive reformers.

From Helen M. Hatfield, 14 Hook Hill, Sanderstead, Surrey

Having read your Wednesday Page article "A parental slap in the face?" (October 12), I asked a group of women of my acquaintance whether they had struck their children when the children were small: all answered "yes", with the frequency ranging from "very seldom" to "very often". A further question as to whether they smacked their children when they were big adolescents brought a universal "no" for answer.

Adolescent children usually produce a fair amount of stress in most households, so I asked why there was no hitting at that time. One woman responded that her children could then run faster than she could, and the remainder replied that their large offspring might then have hit them back.

This conversation has helped to confirm my long-held suspicion that grown-ups hit children because grown-ups are bigger.

From Mrs S.C. Eccles, Holmewood Ridge, Langton Green, Kent

While anyone would agree with Michael Freeman's views on corporal punishment, one would also have to agree that our English society greatly fails to prepare us adequately for parenthood. There are very few of us who understand how children tick, because we have never been taught, and to make that burden even more difficult the average mother or parent is on duty with her children for at least 100

hours per week (and no paid holidays or weekends).

If one then adds in the normal pressures - not to mention anything abnormal - of everyday life, one can create a concoction of tension all too ready to explode. It is an education in, and the stage management of, childcare that we as parents solely need.

From Gerald Awe, Combe Down, Bath

Professor Freeman has got it right. We should not hit our children, not only because it offends their rights, but because it is an inefficient way of getting children to do what we think is correct. As inefficient as shouting. And it is a mistaken manifestation of the love we should be showing them at all times, whether praising, correcting or guiding.

"Spare the rod and spoil the child" should have gone out with the Ark. It assumes there is no alternative. Are we really that unimaginative?

60 seconds to draw a word in pictures.  
50 seconds for Flora to prove she's not such a birdbrain.

**PICTIONARY**  
THE GAME OF QUICK DRAW

The new game from Parker.

Manufactured and distributed by Parker Toys, Harrogate House, Belmont Road, Maidenhead, Berks., under licence from San Serif Print Promotions Limited. © 1985 Pictionary Inc., Seattle, Washington 98109.

**PARKER**











## INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Review section on Saturday by a preview of the week ahead. Items should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

**BOOKING KEY**  
★ Seats available  
★ Returns only  
(\*) Access for disabled

THEATRE  
LONDON

★ **AS YOU LIKE IT:** Geraldine McEwan's thrilling production for Renaissance with Tam Hoskyns, James Larkin and Kenneth Branagh. Phoenix Theatre, Charing Cross Road WC2 (01-836 2284). Tube: Tottenham Court Rd. Tonight 7.45pm, final week in rep with *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Hamlet* £6-£14.50. (D)

★ **BRIGADOON:** Scottish mist and magic in revival of Lerher and Loewe's first hit musical. Victoria Palace, Victoria St SW1 (01-834 1817). Tube: Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.30-9.30pm. Thurs. Sat 2.30-5pm. Previews 27-28, 28-29. Thurs mat, all seats half-price. (D)

★ **DEALING WITH CLAIR:** Tom Courtenay in Martin Crimp's latest play dealing with the hazards of house-buying. Orange Tree Theatre, 45 Kew Road, Richmond (01-840 3533). Tube: Richmond. Mon-Sat 8-10pm, £2-25. (D)

★ **THE JUNGLE:** Buster Theatre play spun from the writings of David Smith, performed by four actresses and a solo. Latchmere Theatre, 503 Battersea Park Rd, SW11 (01-228 2620). Mon-Fri 8-9.30pm, Mon-Thurs 2.50-5pm, Sat 2.50-5pm. (D)

★ **MRS KLEIN:** New Nicholas Wright play centring on a domestic tragedy in the life of psychoanalyst Melanie Klein. National Theatre (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (01-836 2284). Mon-Fri 8-9.30pm, Mon-Thurs 2.50-5pm, Sat 2.50-5pm. (D)

★ **RE JOYCE:** Maureen Lipman playing on a domestic tragedy in the life of psychoanalyst Melanie Klein. National Theatre (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (01-836 2284). Mon-Fri 8-9.30pm, Mon-Thurs 2.50-5pm, Sat 2.50-5pm. (D)

★ **A WALK IN THE WOODS:** Alec Guinness returns to the stage as a cynical Russian negotiator at a Geneva conference table. Phoenix Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-836 2284). Mon-Fri 8-9.30pm, Mon-Thurs 2.50-5pm, Sat 2.50-5pm. (D)

★ **LONG RUNNERS:** ... ★ Beyond Reasonable Doubt: Queen's Theatre (01-734 1166). ... ★ Cats: New London Theatre (01-405 0072). ... ★ Follies: Shaftesbury Theatre (01-836 2284). ... ★ 42nd Street: Drury Lane Theatre (01-836 8108). ... ★ Les Liaisons Dangereuses: Ambassador Theatre (01-836 8111). ... ★ The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244). ... ★ The Run for Your Wife: Moussetrap: St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443). ... ★ The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244). ... ★ The Run for Your Wife: Moussetrap: St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443).

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Criterion Theatre (01-530 3216). ★ Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (01-828 6666)

OUT OF TOWN

BRISTOL: ★ Inventing a New Colour: Premiere of co-production with the Royal Court: two boys in wartime England plan to blow up school. Old Vic Theatre, King St (0272 250250). Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Mat Sat 3pm, 28, Urli Nov 12. (D)

RICHMOND: ★ Henceforward: Ian McKellen and Jane Asher in Ayckbourn's robot play: London-bound. Richmond Theatre, The Green (01-836 0088). Mon-Sat 7.45pm, £4.50-£9. (D)

Also on national release

ADVANCE BOOKING POSSIBLE

AU REVOIR, LES ENFANTS (PG): Louis Malle's moving, semi-autobiographical drama, set in a provincial boarding school in the last months of World War Two. Gaspard Manesse heads the young non-professional cast (107 min). Curzon Embassy (01-489 3737). Progs 1.30, 3.45, 6.20, 8.50.

BIG (PG): Tom Hanks plays the child turned grown-up in this latest role-reversal comedy from Hollywood. Penny Marshall directs. (105 min). Curzon Embassy (01-489 3737). Progs 1.40, 4.35, 7.05, 9.35.

ODEON HIGH ST KENSINGTON (01-502 8644). Progs 1.40, 4.00, 6.20, 8.40. Late Sat 11.10, Fri Sat 1.15, 3.10, 5.10, 7.30, 9.50.

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE (01-722 5805, 586 3057). Progs 1.20, 3.35, 6.00, 8.45. Late Sat 11.10, Fri Sat 1.15, 3.10, 5.10, 7.30, 9.50.

BUSTER (15): Singer Phil Collins makes his cinema debut in a film surveying the life and loves of Buster Edwards of Great Train Robbery fame (102 min). Curzon Embassy (01-489 3737). Progs 2.00, 4.35, 7.05, 9.35.

ODEON HIGH ST KENSINGTON (01-502 8644). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.35. Late Sat 11.10, Fri Sat 1.15, 3.10, 5.10, 7.30, 9.50.

PRINCE CHARLES (01-407 8181). Progs 1.40, 3.50, 6.10, 8.25. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.

DISTANT VOICES, STILL LIVES (15): Terence Davies's remarkable new film set in Liverpool in the 1940s and '50s - a moving account of family life.

ANGELICALLY SET TO POPULAR MUSIC WITH FREDA DOWIE AND PETER POSTHOLWITZ (85 min). Curzon Embassy (01-489 3737). Progs 1.20, 3.45, 6.10, 8.25. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.

DREAM DEMON (18): An American girl searching for her roots comes to the aid of a socialist bride who experiences hideous nightmares. Fanciful British horror film, directed by Harley Kozlik, with Klaus Kinski and Jemma Redgrave (83 min). Curzon Embassy (01-489 3737). Progs 1.20, 3.45, 6.10, 8.25. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.

A FISH CALLED WANDA (15): The adventures of two scheming Americans (Jamie Lee Curtis and Kevin Kline), an uptight English barrister (John Cleese) and an animal rights fanatic (Michael Palin), who own a fish called Wanda. Script by John Cleese. Directed by Ealing veteran Charles Claryson (109 min). Curzon Embassy (01-489 3737). Progs 1.35, 4.45, 8.00. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.

ODEON BAKER ST (01-836 0310). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.

ODEON FULHAM RD (01-370 2636). Progs 2.10, 5.55, 9.05.

ODEON OXFORD ST (01-636 0310). Progs 1.35, 4.45, 8.00. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.

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## A match for Paris



The most bankable French playwright these days is Jean Poiret, whose immensely successful *La Cage aux Folles* is a hit worldwide, and whose *Paris Match* has run for over 2,000 performances at the Palais-Royal. *La Presidente*, his latest, opens in Paris next week, coinciding with the British premiere of *Paris Match* by the enterprising Theatre Cymyd at Mold. Simon Ward (pictured with co-star Annabel Leventon, left), honed his comic skills in the first production of *Orton's Loot*. Here he plays an errand husband forced by the sudden return of his wife (Leventon) to pretend that his young mistress is his grown up daughter by a former flame. The consequences of the lie spread like

hived into every corner of his life, in the approved manner of farce, although French and English farce confirms national types by locating sources of embarrassment in different quarters - witness the last farce premiered by Theatre Cymyd, English or at least British, which went on to enjoy a successful London run and whose title says it all: *When Did You Last See Your Trainers?* Leventon last appeared at Mold as the female half of a patriotic William 'n' Mary show, *Glorious Years*, but television audiences still cherish the memory of her comic performances in *Rock Follies*, *Paris Match*, Theatre Cymyd, *Chris Caine*, *Mold* (0352-56331). Previews from tonight. Opens Nov 1. £5.50-£8.00. *Jeremy Kingston*

sent to Vietnam to keep up the morale of the troops. Directed by Barry Levinson (121 min). Curzon Embassy (01-489 3737). Progs 2.50, 6.35, 9.20.

CANNON OXFORD STREET (01-636 0310). Progs 2.00, 5.05, 8.10. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.

CANNON FULHAM ROAD (01-370 2636). Progs 2.00, 5.05, 8.10. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.

ODEON HIGH ST KENSINGTON (01-502 8644). Progs 2.00, 5.05, 8.10. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE (01-722 5805, 586 3057). Progs 2.00, 5.05, 8.10. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.

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W1 (01-439 1095). Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm, free, until Dec 3.

EDGAR HEAR OF BRIDE: An installation called *What Makes A Man*. Matt's Gallery, 10 Marlborough St, London W1 (01-439 2759), daily 2-6pm, free, until Nov 6.

ROBERT NATION: Colourful abstracts by a leading American painter. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240-1066), 7.30-10.15pm, free, until Nov 19.

DANCE

★ ONDINE: Frederick Ashton's big romantic work for the Royal Ballet. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240-1066), 7.30-10.15pm, £1-£27.

★ TECTONICS: A new work



## TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear  
and Jane Rackham

## BBC1

- 6.00 **Coastal AM**. News headlines, weather, travel and sports bulletins.
- 6.35 **Learn to Swim**. Down the River. 6.55 **Weather**.
- 7.00 **Breakfast Time** with John Stapleton and Sally Jones. Includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27. 8.55 **Regional news and weather**.
- 9.00 **News and weather** followed by **Open Air**. Emma Holmes and Natalie Anglesky receive viewers' reactions on yesterday's television output. 9.30 **Kilroy**. Robert Kilroy-Glik chairs a discussion on a topical subject.
- 10.00 **News and weather** followed by **Going to Gold**. European general knowledge quiz (r). 10.30 **Children's BBC** introduced by Andy Crane. 10.55 **Playbox**. 10.55 **Junior and the Jet Set** (r). 10.55 **Five to Eleven**. Patricia Hayes with a reading. News and weather followed by **Open Air**. Emma Holmes and Emma Holmes discuss last night's 40 Minutes documentary **Live to Live**. To contribute comments call 051-814 0024.
- 12.00 **News and weather** followed by **Daytime Live** with Alan Thornham and Judi Spiers. Among the guests is pop singer **Open Air**. Emma Holmes and Emma Holmes discuss last night's 40 Minutes documentary **Live to Live**. To contribute comments call 051-814 0024.
- 1.00 **One O'Clock news** with Michael Buerk. Weather.
- 1.30 **Neighbours**. Paul and Gill.
- 1.50 **Film: Knight Without Armour** (1937, b/w) starring Marlene Dietrich and Robert Donat. Romantic drama about a British aristocrat who is entrusted by the Russian Revolutionary forces to accompany the daughter of a Tsarist minister on her way to Jacques Feyder. 3.35 **Cartoon Double Bill**.

## BBC2

- 9.00 **Coastal AM**. 9.30 **Daytime on Two**. Austria's school year. 9.45 **Industrial change in Scotland**. 10.05 **Badger Girl** 10.25 **Abandon 10.45 Storyline**. 11.00 **The Trials of Water** 11.25 **Worldwide 11.40 Solving riddles**. 12.00 **The light engineering industry** 12.30 **D.J. Lawrence's Strike Play** 12.55 **The fascination of motor cars**. 1.25 **Map and Smiff** (r). 1.40 **Watusi** (r). 2.00 **News and weather** followed by **You and Me** (r).
- 2.15 **Sport on Friday**. Motor Racing: a preview of Sunday's Japanese Grand Prix; Football: highlights from European competitions. Includes news and weather at 3.00 and 3.30.
- 4.00 **Women of the Year** (Lanc). 4.35 **It's My Pleasure** (Lanc). 4.55 **Chase** (r).
- 5.00 **Rock Attack** (r). 5.30 **Three Days One Summer** at Sussex Cricket Club (b/w).
- 6.00 **Black Head** (1938, b/w) starring Laurel and Hardy as First World War soldiers. Directed by John G. Blystone. 6.55 **Popeye in The Jeep** (b/w).

## ITV/LONDON

- 6.00 **TV-am** begins with **News and The Morning Programme** introduced by Kathy Rochford. 7.00 **News** followed by **Good Morning Britain** presented by Anne Diamond and Mike Morris. 8.00 **News** and **Weekend** with Timmy Mallett.
- 9.25 **Ramsey**. Travel and general knowledge quiz. 9.55 **Thames news and weather** 10.00 **The Time**. The **Flex** Mike Scott chairs a discussion on runaway children.
- 10.40 **This Morning**. Magazine series presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Today's edition includes financial advice for women at 11.00 and, at 11.45, Jan Leeming investigating popular crafts. Plus national news at 10.55 and regional news at 11.55.
- 12.10 **Rainbow**. Learning with puppets (r). 12.30 **Santa Barbara**. 1.00 **News**. The **Flex** Mike Scott chairs a discussion on runaway children.
- 1.30 **News**. The **Flex** Mike Scott chairs a discussion on runaway children.
- 2.00 **The Bill** (r). 2.35 **Home**. 3.00 **Take the High Road**. Lady Gail comforts Joanne. 3.35 **Thames news and weather** 3.50 **Sons and Daughters**.
- 4.00 **Scotch Doc**. Cartoon series (r). 4.10 **Crash**. 4.15 **Stephens** comedy series 4.45 **Freddie** presented by Andi Peters.
- 5.15 **Stockbusters**. 5.45 **News** with Fiona Armstrong.
- 6.15 **Friday News** introduced by Pam Royce. Includes an investigation into stress levels of London drivers; how far motorists have to drive before they are eligible for a "free" gift; a look at the sales incentive industry; and a check on Ealing Council's guide to goods and services available after a nuclear holocaust.
- 7.00 **Family Fortunes**. Game show.

## CHANNEL 4

- 9.30 **Schools**. 12.30 **The Parliament Programme**. 12.30 **Business Daily**.
- 1.00 **On Course**. Magazine series or **Open College** learners (r).
- 2.00 **Film: Strangers When We Meet** (1990) starring Kirk Douglas and Kim Novak. Romantic drama about a successful architect who has an affair with his unhappy next-door neighbour. Directed by Richard Quin.
- 4.10 **Film: Punch Drums** (1934, b/w) starring the Three Stooges. Prize-winning comedy. Directed by Lou Breslow.
- 4.30 **Scarecrow and Mrs King**. The two agents go in search for a ruthless killer who has stolen a quantity of deadly nerve gas.
- 5.55 **Murphy's Law** (1982, b/w) starring John Crawford and Jack Palance. A drama about a young actor who is turned down for a leading role by the play's author. He plots a bizarre revenge. Directed by David Miller. Ends at 1.30am.

## Blots on the landscape

## TELEVISION CHOICE

● Ten years ago Christopher Booker and Martin made a film called *City of Towers* about the despoliation of British cities. A decade on, the same team have Prince Charles as their front man. In many ways, the arguments have been won since then: high-rises are discredited, along with much else from post-war architecture. The current orthodoxy, for whom Prince Charles is the prominent lay spokesman, is pro-classical, anti-modernist and anti-abstract. The effort to restore the balance between people and the spaces in which they live and work has resulted in a return to vernacular, representational styles, a sort of Disney classical which marks a return to an earlier tradition as an immutable one. This special edition of *Omibus* (BBC1, 10.20pm) — *HRH The Prince of Wales: A Vision of Britain* — will be a cautionary tale, no doubt, but, to judge by his form to date,



Surveying the skyline: Prince Charles examines and comments on the changing face of London's architecture (BBC1, 10.20pm)

the prescriptions will be retrospective. ● Irish poet: Learning to Lose (C4, 8.00pm) looks at the education system in Ulster and Eire, which, for the most part, leave a lot to be desired, on the admission of both pupils and some of their teachers. Early enthusiasm turns apathetic at secondary level, compounded by lack of prospects, especially in Ulster.

Chris Petit

## Radio 1

VHF Stereo and MW (medium wave) News on the hour (except 6.00pm and 9.00pm) 6.00 Steve Madden 6.30 Chris Stuart 7.30 Derek Jameson 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.00 Jimmy Young 1.05 David Jacobs 2.05 Gloria Hunniford 3.30 Adrian Love 4.00 John Peel 7.00 Memories Of You (Chris Eubank) 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night 9.30 Nigel Ogden with The Organist 10.00 The Golden Years with Alan Keith 10.30 Old Stagers (Kate Smith) 11.00 Peter Dinklage with Nightcap 1.00 Les Hill with The Circle 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music.

## Radio 2

VHF Stereo and MW (medium wave) News on the hour (except 6.00pm and 9.00pm) 6.00 Steve Madden 6.30 Chris Stuart 7.30 Derek Jameson 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.00 Jimmy Young 1.05 David Jacobs 2.05 Gloria Hunniford 3.30 Adrian Love 4.00 John Peel 7.00 Memories Of You (Chris Eubank) 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night 9.30 Nigel Ogden with The Organist 10.00 The Golden Years with Alan Keith 10.30 Old Stagers (Kate Smith) 11.00 Peter Dinklage with Nightcap 1.00 Les Hill with The Circle 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music.

## WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 7.00 Twenty-four hours 7.30 World News 7.45 Seven Seas 8.00 World News 8.15 Reflections 8.15 The Spinners 8.30 World News 8.45 The Spinners 9.00 The World Today 9.15 The World Today 9.30 Financial News 9.45 The World Today 9.55 The World Today 10.00 The World Today 10.15 The World Today 10.30 The World Today 10.45 The World Today 10.55 The World Today 11.00 The World Today 11.15 The World Today 11.30 The World Today 11.45 The World Today 11.55 The World Today 12.00 The World Today 12.15 The World Today 12.30 The World Today 12.45 The World Today 12.55 The World Today 1.00 The World Today 1.15 The World Today 1.30 The World Today 1.45 The World Today 1.55 The World Today 2.00 The World Today 2.15 The World Today 2.30 The World Today 2.45 The World Today 2.55 The World Today 3.00 The World Today 3.15 The World Today 3.30 The World Today 3.45 The World Today 3.55 The World Today 4.00 The World Today 4.15 The World Today 4.30 The World Today 4.45 The World Today 4.55 The 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MARKETS	THE POUND
FT 30 Share 1502.6 (-0.5)	US dollar 1.7690 (+0.0085)
FT-SE 100 1852.1 (+1.4)	W. German mark 3.1373 (+0.0143)
USM (Dallas) am 162.10 (+0.12)	Trade-weighted 76.9 (+0.3)

# THE TIMES

FRIDAY OCTOBER 28 1988

PART 2  
BUSINESS AND FINANCE 23-31  
SPORT 36-40

Executive Editor  
David Brewerton

## ICI jumps by 11%

Imperial Chemical Industries made £347 million pre-tax in the third quarter, up 11 per cent on a year ago. Nine-month profits of £1,130 million rose 13 per cent, despite sterling's strength, costing £100 million in lost profit. Sales rose 9 per cent by volume but 5 per cent in sterling value on currency movements and poor fertilizer trading in Britain. Earnings per share rose 15 per cent in the nine months to 99.7p, figures were in line with forecasts but shares shed 4p to 1054p. **Comment: page 25**

## EHP adds to Spain outlets

European Home Products is to take over the electrical goods and photographic departments in all 29 of Mountleigh Group's Spanish operation, Galerías Preciados, in a move which should boost its total group Spanish sales from £55 million to £100 million this year. The entry cost is £2.4 million net. **Temps: page 24**

## Redland rise

Redland, the international building materials group, made a pre-tax profit of £88.2 million in the half year to end-June. Redland is changing its year end from March to December, so this compares with restated interim profits for 1987 of £66.6 million. An interim dividend of 6.25p was declared. **Temps: page 24**

## STOCK MARKETS

New York	Dow Jones	2141.54 (-23.64)
Tokyo	Nikkei Average	2772.92 (+102.32)
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	2617.25 (+8.83)
Amsterdam	Amst. 100	235.6 (-0.2)
Sydney	Sydney 100	1593.7 (+2.2)
Frankfurt	Frankfurt 100	1641.6 (+14.1)
Brussels	Brussels 100	5343.0 (-4.9)
Geneva	Geneva 100	392.2 (+0.9)
Zurich	Zurich S&P	495.4 (-2.5)
London	FT-30	1502.6 (-0.5)
FT-100	FT-100	1852.1 (+1.4)
FT-100	FT-100	1852.1 (+1.4)
FT-100	FT-100	1852.1 (+1.4)

## MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES	2044p (+33p)
Wm Low	895p (+10p)
St. Stephen Ind	2027p (+10p)
Brown & Tawse	2027p (+10p)
Cannon Street	2027p (+10p)
Conder Group	2027p (+10p)
Telephone Rentals	2027p (+10p)
Net Home Loans	2027p (+10p)
A Kershaw	2027p (+10p)
Unidare	2027p (+10p)
S&N Group	2027p (+10p)
Beant Walker	2027p (+10p)
Pearson	2027p (+10p)
Landis	2027p (+10p)
F&L	2027p (+10p)
Gresham House	2027p (+10p)
Really Useful	2027p (+10p)
Schroders	2027p (+10p)
Investec	2027p (+10p)
Davies & Newman	2027p (+10p)
Steel Summit	2027p (+10p)
Chasing prices	2027p (+10p)
Bentley	2027p (+10p)
SEAG Volume	2027p (+10p)

## INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	12%
3-month interbank	12 1/2-12%
3-month eligible bills	11 1/2-11%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	10%
Federal Funds	8 1/2%
3-month Treasury Bills	7.37-7.38%
30-year bonds	10 1/2-10 3/4%

## CURRENCIES

London	New York
£1.7690	£1.7707
£1.7690	£1.7707
£1.7690	£1.7707
£1.7690	£1.7707
£1.7690	£1.7707
£1.7690	£1.7707
£1.7690	£1.7707
£1.7690	£1.7707
£1.7690	£1.7707

## GOLD

London Fixing	AM \$407.15 PM \$407.50
close \$407.50-408.00	(2330-2340)
New York	Comex \$407.50-408.00

## NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Dec)	pm \$12.45bbl (\$12.30)
Denotes latest trading price	

## THE TIMES

## STOCK WATCH

0898 141 141

● Market news on Stock-watch yesterday included: Iceland Frozen Foods (01616) which has made an offer for rival Bejam (02401), which put on 294p and Iceland slipped 10p. ICI (01348) was up 1p on third-quarter figures showing a record profit of £1.13 billion. Redland (02628) increased its interim on last time and its shares were up 4p. ● Recent additions include: the Chieftain Group 03481, Raci Telecommunications 03479. ● Calls charged 5p for 8 seconds peak, 12 seconds off peak inc. VAT.

# Sterling rises on £1bn boost for trade gap

By Rodney Lord, Economics Editor

Britain's balance of payments deficit in September turned out to be nearly £1 billion lower than expected. The deficit on the current account was £560 million, compared with £1.31 billion the previous month. City analysts had been revising up their estimates of the deficit earlier in the week because of last month's postal strike, so the surprise was all the greater. The pound closed against the dollar at \$1.7690, up 0.9 of a cent. Closer analysis of the figures suggests that most of the improvement could be attributed to special factors of one sort or another. Trade in diamonds was particularly favourable, and the erratic items accounted for £580 million of the improvement between the two months. The Treasury said there was also some uncertainty over the seasonal adjustment of the figures. September has shown a favourable trade pattern for a number of years. The Department of Trade and Industry said it had tried to compensate for the effect of the postal strike in delaying export data by including

information received two days after the normal closing date. This added £200 to £250 million to the original total. Imports were not affected because 90 per cent of import documentation is computerized. Despite the windfall element in the figures, Government officials welcomed the strong improvement in exports. In September the volume of exports, excluding erratic items, rose more than twice as fast as imports at nearly 10 per cent. Taking the third quarter as a whole, however, imports still rose faster. Excluding oil and erratics, they rose by 7 1/2 per cent to 15 per cent above a year earlier, compared with a

5 per cent rise in exports on the same basis to a level 6 per cent above a year earlier. Mr Bill Martin, of Phillips and Drew, said: "These figures do not really alter the broad pattern. We are still expecting a deficit of about £14 billion this year." Exports rose during September from £6.75 billion to £7.56 billion, seasonally adjusted, and imports from £8.56 billion to £8.62 billion. The deficit on visible trade fell from £1.81 billion to £1.06 billion and, after an estimated surplus of £500 million on invisible trade on services and financial flows, the current account deficit fell from £1.31 billion to £560 million. The current account deficit for the third quarter as a whole was £403 billion, compared with £2.91 billion in the second quarter and £2.84 billion in the first. In the first three-quarters of the year, the deficit totalled £9.78 billion. Imports of capital goods continued high rising 9 1/2 per cent in the third quarter, excluding erratic items. But there was little sign of any cooling of demand for consumer goods with consumer imports also rising 9 1/2 per cent.

## Debt concern

US markets were unsettled by suggestions by Mr Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, that Congress should review tax laws to discourage the growing volume of debt associated with takeovers. Wall Street fell more than 30 points in the first hour, over developments on leveraged buyouts. **Wall Street, page 24**

# UK companies may join in record bidding for Nabisco

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Shearson Lehman Hutton yesterday accelerated its search for major partners, possibly including British companies, to help finance its bid for RJR Nabisco, even as Kohlberg Kravis Roberts, its main rival, began a \$20.5 billion (£11.6 billion) tender offer for the food and tobacco company. The record KKR offer stopped just short of becoming a hostile bid as it remained contingent on a friendly accord with Nabisco, despite the management's decision to break off all negotiations with the firm. KKR, which had no comment on the Nabisco decision, was expected to file a detailed plan of its intentions with the US Securities and Exchange Commission after the markets closed. Both actions signalled the start to the anticipated battle between the two investment

giants. Shearson, which is working closely with Nabisco's management group, led by Mr Ross Johnson, the president, was said to have entered into negotiations with Forstmann Little & Co., KKR's chief competitor in the leveraged buyout arena. In addition, Shearson could obtain financing from American Express, its parent, and Nippon Life Insurance Co., one of its largest shareholders. There was also speculation that Shearson was talking to other players, possibly including Hanson Industries, which is known to be in the market for another US deal. Analysts said Shearson had been expected to launch its own offer by the end of the week, but now that KKR had made the first move, it might counter more swiftly. Shearson has never completed a big

leveraged buyout, but with the downturn in its retail business it has increased its mergers and acquisitions activity. Meanwhile, KKR said it had decided to go ahead with its tender offer, despite the fact that Nabisco's management would not join its bid to attain a better competitive position. The Nabisco management group had said it would terminate all discussions with KKR over the possibility of a joint buyout. Mr Johnson said he did not believe the KKR proposal was in the best interests of the company. He intended to move forward with Shearson on a rival bid designed to maximize shareholder interests. ● Grand Metropolitan has extended its \$60-a-share tender offer for Pillsbury until midnight on November 8.

# Nickson resigns bank post

By Michael Tate, Deputy City Editor

Sir David Nickson, chairman of Scottish & Newcastle Breweries, yesterday confirmed that he had resigned from the board of Clydesdale Bank. He said that he "clearly had

no alternative but to resign" after being informed by *The Times* of the involvement of National Australia Bank, Clydesdale's parent company, in the financing arrangements

which had been made for the bid by Elders IXL for S&N. NAB has put up £100 million of financing for Elders' hostile £1.6 billion bid.

# S&N chairman embarrassed by Elders link

By Michael Tate

Top individuals and institutions in the City are heavily criticized in a Department of Trade report into the affairs of Milbury, the property group which collapsed in 1985. The Stock Exchange, Arthur Young, the accountancy firm, Weatherall Green & Smith, the chartered surveyor, Henry Ansbacher, the merchant bank, and Hancock & Willis, a firm of solicitors, are all strongly criticized by the inspectors. Mr Hugh Carlisle QC and Mr Michael Lickiss, an accountant. The Milbury investigation centred around the activities of Mr Jim Raper, who plundered the company and its subsidiary, Westminster Property, before Milbury's shares were finally suspended in 1985. Mr Raper is accorded several insults in the report ranging from "Mr Raper is a devious man and his motivation is one of out-and-out self-interest" to "a dominating and unscrupulous man." He is also accorded the standard accolade of

being "unfit to be a director of a public company." The inspectors attack the Stock Exchange for effectively allowing Mr Raper back into the City in 1983 after an earlier condemnation of him by the Takeover Panel, which made clear that no merchant banker or stockbroker should deal for him. "We have to say that we were misimpressed by the professionalism of the senior members (of the Stock Exchange) in question," the inspectors conclude. Although not overtly referred to in the report's conclusions, the inspectors highlight the role played by several prominent City figures in the 1983 "reconciliation" with Mr Raper. These include Mr Patrick Mitford-Stade and Mr Charles Eglington, then deputy chairman of the Stock Exchange, Sir Jasper Holman, then chairman of the Takeover Panel, and Mr Robin Stormonth-Darling, then joint chairman of the Stock Exchange's Quotations Committee. "Of all those involved with the relis-

ing (of Milbury) it is those at the Stock Exchange who were most responsible for what occurred," the inspectors say. The Stock Exchange issued a statement yesterday saying that "at the time and in the light of the information available to it, the decision to grant a listing for the shares of Milbury was justified and that criticism of that decision would be based in substantial measure on the application of hindsight." The inspectors also say that "the March 1984 year-end group accounts (of Milbury) were seriously misleading and converted what was probably only a breakeven situation into one in which a massive increase of profits was shown. It is a major criticism of Arthur Young, the auditors, that they permitted so inaccurate a financial picture to be given." The inspectors go on to say: "We must add that Weatherall's (property consultant and valuer to Milbury and Westminster) valuations appear to us to have been too casual and we deprecate the sending of a side letter in qualification."



Hitting back at critics: a beleaguered Lord Young at 10 Downing Street yesterday

# Young defends mergers

By Colin Narbrough

Lord Young, the Trade and Industry Secretary, yesterday sought to defend his record on merger rulings in the past six months as wholly consistent with stated policy that the main criterion is the impact on competition in Britain. Lord Young, clearly rattled by charges that referral decisions had been unpredictable and inconsistent against leveraged bids, and even protectionist where foreign predators were involved, said his policy showed a "remarkable degree of consistency." In a speech to the Stock Exchange conference, he underlined that such decisions could not be reduced to a simple arithmetical formula based on market shares. His referral to the Monopolies Commission of the South African-controlled Milnoro's £2.9 billion bid for Consolidated Gold

Fields had been based on a world market, but made on competition grounds alone. The test had not been how much of the companies' businesses came from titanium and zircon, operations peripheral to their main activities. "What was of concern to me is not the interests of the companies involved, nor of the new group, but the effect the new arrangements would have on the consumer in the UK." Lord Young said the effect of the bid could be to reduce competition. That was not pre-judging the MMC's inquiry. Neither the nationality of the bidder, nor the investigation of possible insider dealing, had any bearing on the referral. He rejected criticism that the rules which emerged last March from a DTI policy review had in any way been

rewritten or abandoned. To look at several referral decisions and draw the conclusion that the DTI was against bids from a particular country, or of a particular type, was "arrant nonsense," Lord Young said. Each merger was different and was considered on its merits within the policy framework. Emphasizing that he looked at mergers from the view of the British customer, not that of the merging companies, he said the policy was not "saving" companies from predators, or foreign takeovers. Angered by the costly public lobbying in recent mega-bids, he called on people seeking to influence a referral to talk to the OFT, not to him. Amid all the cases of consistency he cited a "truly exceptional one" - the Kuwait Investment Office's stake in BP.

# Pernod 'in breach of Code'

By Graham Searjeant

The fate of Irish Distillers Group was thrown back into the melting pot last night, when the City Takeover Panel's executive ruled that Pernod-Ricard and IDG had breached the Takeover Code by putting pressure on individual shareholders to accept a punitive £450p (385p) per share bid over the weekend of September 3-4. But the Panel executive, which is clearly anxious about the politically sensitive nature of the takeover struggle in Ireland, has referred to the full Panel the question of what remedies, if any, should be applied. The point at issue is whether all or some of the shareholders who gave irrevocable acceptances should be released from them, in which case most would certainly prefer the £525p per share rival bid from Grand Metropolitan.

# Bond becomes biggest Lonrho shareholder

By Colin Narbrough

Mr Alan Bond, the Australian entrepreneur, has overtaken Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland as the biggest shareholder in Lonrho, the international trading group, and is believed to be pressing for a seat on the board. An announcement yesterday said that since last week the Bond Corporation had increased its stake in Lonrho by a further 5 per cent to 20 per cent. The stake is estimated to have cost Mr Bond about £300 million. Mr Rowland's holding was last given at between 15 and 16 per cent.

On the stock market Lonrho shares ended the day at 375.5p, down 6.5p from the day's best. It is understood that Mr Bond has been seeking discussions with Mr Rowland, the Lonrho chief executive, about future relations, including a seat on the board. Although the market remains unconvinced by Mr Rowland's recent claim that the group's shares were worth 800p, Mr Bond is looking not to lose money on his shares, and is clearly convinced they will rise.

# Iceland launches £253m 'ice war'

By Wolfgang Manahan

Britain's two leading freezer food store groups were locked in a fierce takeover battle last night, after Iceland Frozen Foods Holdings' £253 million hostile bid for Bejam. The frostiness between the two sides was underlined immediately by a declaration from Mr Malcolm Walker, the Iceland chairman, that all Bejam directors would have to leave if his bid succeeded. Iceland is offering 41 new Iceland ordinary shares and 60 convertible preference shares of 20p for every 100 Bejam shares, valuing Bejam's shares at 200p. It is effectively a reverse takeover, since Bejam shareholders could end with 61.3 per cent of the enlarged Iceland equity. Bejam shares soared 33p to 204 1/2p on the news, while Iceland fell 10p to 333p, reflecting the proposed issue of 51.6 million shares. The market expects Iceland to sweeten its bid although some industry analysts have warned that earnings would be diluted in that case. Bejam last night rejected the offer and advised shareholders to take no action, but was not prepared to make any further comment. Mr John Aphorpe, the Bejam chairman, speaks for 30 per cent of the company, so Iceland needs the support of 73 per cent of the rest. Mr Walker claimed Bejam's senior management lacked retail experience and was underperforming in a fast-growing market. Iceland, traditionally strong in the North, believes the southern-based Bejam would be a snug fit. It has 183 stores, against Bejam's 267. If successful, Iceland will sell off Victor Value, Bejam's supermarket chain. The bid would dilute the holding of Mr Walker and three of his fellow directors - they own 41 per cent of Iceland's equity - to 12 per cent. Ironically, Mr Aphorpe, if he accepted the offer, would emerge as Iceland's largest shareholder with a stake of 20 per cent. Iceland made its first approach in May 1987 and tried again last May, but Bejam refused to talk. Iceland yesterday produced a forecast of pre-tax profits of £8.8 million, up from £7.2 million, on turnover up 33 per cent to £205 million. Although Bejam and Iceland are the leading specialist frozen foods chains, a referral to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission is unlikely as the combined company would account for only 14 per cent of the total British market in frozen foods, just behind Sainsbury.

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## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

## Portmeirion Potteries has £17.2m valuation

Dealings start next Thursday in the shares of Portmeirion Potteries (Holdings) following a private placing of 25 per cent of the capital at 180p a share to raise £4 million net. The company, which makes tableware, cookware, kitchenware and giftware, has seen turnover increase from £2.48 million to £7.5 million in the five years to 1987. Pre-tax profits rose from £125,000 to £1.09 million. Profits for the seven months ended July were £271,000.

The group will have a market capitalization of £17.2 million at the placing price and offers a price/earnings ratio of 14, based on estimated profits for 1988. The notional gross dividend yield for 1988 is 3.3 per cent. The £4 million being raised will reduce debt and boost capacity.

## Interim slide at Philips

Philips, the Dutch electronics group, saw pre-tax profits fall to £1214 million (about £60.81 million) in the third quarter of 1988, down from £1299 million last time. But the company said that, despite its cost-reduction campaign, it believed its net income, which fell from £1174 million to £1139 million in the quarter, would not be lower than in 1987, when it was £1181 million.

## Leigh makes cash buy

Leigh Interests, best known for its involvement in the dispute over the toxic waste ship, Karin B, is paying £259,000 cash for the waste disposal divisions of JR Mac and Monolite, which is trading as Clarke Environmental. The acquisitions will increase Leigh Interests' geographical coverage to Burton upon Trent in Staffordshire, and Warwickshire.

## Monarch confident

Monarch Resources, the gold mining company with extensive exploration interests in Venezuela, is confident it has sufficient resources to fund its expanded exploration programme for new mines. Lord Shackleton, the chairman, says in the interim report: "There are many exciting opportunities within the mining sector in Venezuela."

There have been contractors' delays on the Mompia Gorge project, but Monarch is earning performance bonuses from the Colombia mine and plant technical assistance contract. Monarch made a pre-tax loss of £717,000 (£407,000) for the six months ended June.

## Toronto deal for Peters

Michael Peters, the design group, has acquired Communique, the Toronto producer of audio-visual, corporate communications, for an initial Can\$2.79 million (£1.32 million), with up to another Can\$2.14 million to follow, depending on profits. The initial price will be settled by Can\$2.33 million in cash and the rest in Peters shares.

## Joint venture for Parkland

Parkland Textiles, the Bradford menswear group, is forming a joint venture company with SC Yarns, a yarn manufacturer, based in Yorkshire. The new company, to be called Ottomian Pacific, will advise its two parents on all aspects of yarns. Ottomian Pacific would operate independently. It was announced.

## Engineer stronger

Central & Sheerwood, the troubled engineering company rescued in 1987 by Mr Robert Maxwell's Pergamon Holdings group, is "greatly encouraged" by its strengthened financial resources. While the interim dividend was passed again, and operating profit before exceptional items fell from £306,000 to £187,000, the company showed a six month pre-tax profit of £163,000 against a comparable £941,000 pre-tax loss. In the previous period, it bore an exceptional debit of £1.15 million. Turnover in the latest interim period rose from £15.5 million to £16.6 million.

## Redland still looks for City friends

Redland cannot seem to please, whatever the mood of the City.

At the height of the market's enthusiasm for British-oriented building materials companies, Redland - with more than half its profits earned overseas - was neglected. But now, as fears of a slump in the domestic building industry preoccupy investors, Redland is still out of favour.

The pundits are pointing to the dull US outlook for Redland - this market contributes a fifth of profits - while the fact that nearly half the operations are in Britain is now being held against the company.

Instead, the group has to rely on its attractions as a high-income stock on a yield of 6 per cent.

With lowly-rated paper, acquisitions will have to be made for cash - gearing, taking in the proceeds of the recently-disposed of fuels business, should be 25 per cent at the year end.

Organic growth, primed by heavy capital investment may, however, prove Redland's surest way forward. The budget assumes Redland spending £115 million, half of which is being deployed overseas. In 1989, capital expenditure will be even higher at £160 million.

Redland has not yet experienced a downturn in activity at home, and strong price increases are coming through.

Recently, however, growth rates have been less dramatic than those experienced at the beginning of the year, when the mild winter was an important factor.

All in all, Redland should prove relatively resilient, as only a tenth of its domestic business is linked to new housing work.

The US is patchy with poor results from Texas and Colorado. But Genstar, the north-eastern operation which accounts for 80 per cent of US profits, is holding up well. Australia and Continental Europe continue to perform strongly.

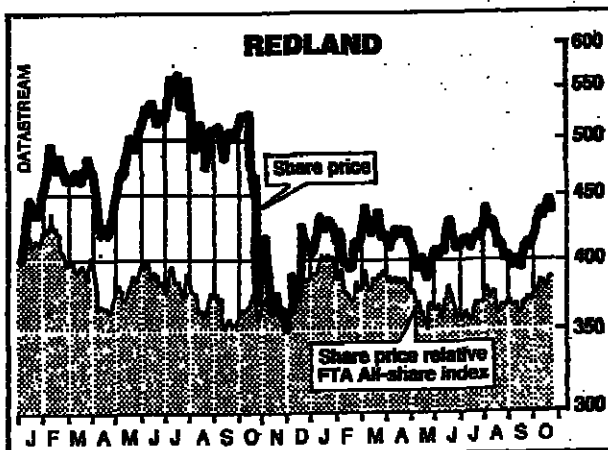
The much-publicized challenge by Redland to BFB's British plasterboard monopoly is progressing steadily. Redland has bought a Scandinavian plasterboard manufacturer and may expand further, through acquisition, into the French market.

The group should make £215 million this year, rating the shares on a p/e of 8.5 times. Not expensive, but they are unlikely to buck the sector trend in the short term.

## National

## Home Loans

National Home Loans Corporation has a remarkable capacity for making money. Within three years, the company has lifted pre-tax profits to £23 million, from a starting capital



of a mere £100 million. Investors have reason to be pleased: the company has increased this year's dividend by 25 per cent to 7.01p.

Admittedly, NHLC has been operating in one of the most active sectors of the booming financial services market - retail mortgages. But it has also become one of the most competitive areas. Lending margins have shrunk progressively, but NHLC has refused to join in this trend merely to preserve its market share and has still retained a high-quality loan book.

The company is a lesson in what a carefully managed financing and treasury operation can achieve. NHLC depends heavily on squeezing the best rates on its borrowings. Its increasing sophistication in using a variety of

markets and instruments has paid off handsomely.

To an extent, that is one of the perks of being a small player in a big market. Careful targeting and marketing are easier than for a big building society. But NHLC has to be congratulated on its ability to "manage its margins" from both ends, "constantly adjusting lending and borrowing costs for optimum return."

Earnings from non-interest income have also soared, from £2 million to £7 million last year, or about 30 per cent of profits. This could rise to about 50 per cent by the end of the decade. Now that the company is free to venture out of its self-imposed restriction to the residential mortgage area, more rapid growth in commission income is likely. A few small acquisitions are

## Japan urges a halt to dollar decline

From Joe Joseph, Tokyo

The yen has climbed far enough against the dollar and its exchange rate against the tumbling US currency has reached a level at which it should stabilize, a senior official of Japan's finance ministry said last night.

The remarks follow similar comments yesterday by the finance minister and the head of Japan's central bank and coupled with reports of central bank intervention in Tokyo to halt the dollar's decline, underline Japan's growing fears that the dollar's fall may be getting out of hand.

The US currency shed a

further ¥0.90 in Tokyo to close at ¥125.90, the first time it ended the day's trading in Japan below ¥126 since June.

The official said pressure on the dollar from US third-quarter growth figures was "nothing to worry about."

Earlier Mr Kiichi Miyazawa, Japan's finance minister, suggested that he had directed monetary authorities to counter disruptive exchange rate swings. Mr Satoshi Sumita, the Governor of the Bank of Japan, gave warning that the central bank would act against "excessive" rate fluctuations.

## Globe Trust lifts half-time payout

By Colin Campbell

Globe Investment Trust, where shareholders' funds rose from £910 million to £966 million at September 30, is raising its interim dividend from 1.52p to 1.61p a share.

Mr David Hardy, the chairman, says that attributable profit in the half-year to September 30 eased from £12.3 million to £11.7 million, partly due to the continuing low level of market activity which, in turn, had reduced underwriting commission and other market-related earnings.

Administrative expenses rose from £1.21 million to £1.78 million, although the

rate of increase should slow in the second half.

The increase stemmed partly from higher salaries and staff numbers, but also because of more advertising and the final costs of Globe's Tokyo Stock Exchange listing.

Income from listed investments rose from £14.4 million to £17.3 million.

Net asset value a share at September 30 was 180.81p, compared with 170.62p a share previously.

On the stock market, the shares were virtually unchanged at 146.5p on the news.

already in the offing. The advantage, of course, is that these earnings are not capital intensive.

NHLC's shares have always been treated badly in the stock market, which has often seemed unfair. Unfortunately, that is unlikely to change much. Profit growth in the current year is almost certain to be slower, partly because of the sluggish mortgage market. Profits may not top £30 million. Even with the shares up 8p to 123p yesterday, the prospective p/e of slightly under 10 is not exceptional for the financial sector.

## European

## Home Products

European Home Products, born out of the Singer sewing machine retail arm, and now sporting Scholl sandals, has fallen for Spain.

The tie-up through its Spanish subsidiary Ivarre (bought last September for £3.3 million) with the Moudiegh Group's Galerías Preciados promises to do wonders for the company's turnover and profits.

EHP's entry cost for a nine-year agreement to operate 29 electrical and photographic departments, which will give it extensive geographical representation, is £2.4 million net. In return, EHP expects to

achieve sales of at least £40 million a year through the Galerías outlets, paying a rental of 10.5 per cent of sales.

The deal will give EHP overall Spanish sales of £100 million next year, equivalent to one-quarter of group turnover.

The entry cost will be funded by the sale of the freehold of an Ivarre warehouse, which is expected to fetch at least £2.5 million.

With EHP's interim results to the end of June still fresh in the mind (pre-tax profits of £12.5 million, against £2.35 million in 1987) the earlier forecasts for this year still stand at £22 million, but for 1989 they can be upgraded by a good £1 million, to at least the £29 million level.

One particular appeal of the deal is that the home-penetration levels for videos, washing machines and colour television sets in Spain are still many percentage points below those in Britain, so there is plenty of market opportunities to go for. Also, whereas margins on electrical goods in British markets remain under pressure, those in Spain are still around 20 per cent gross.

EHP has come far in expanding from a static sewing machine market - and still has further to go. At 304p on a prospective rating, based on 1989 figures, of 10.1, the shares are worth buying.

## Dow falls 30 points as 'merger mania' fades

New York (Reuters) - Shares were falling again in early trading yesterday after a brief, partial recovery in blue chips. Futures traders said that another bout of futures-related selling had hit shares. They connected the selling to an apparent fading of "merger mania."

The Dow Jones industrial

average was 30 points down at 2,135.18 after recovering to a loss of about 23 points. Traders said that the latest futures-related selling was relatively light and that outright selling was behind most of the renewed decline.

© Tokyo - The Nikkei index gained 102.32 points, or 0.37 per cent, to 27,722.92.

THE DOW JONES INDUSTRIAL

Oct 26	Oct 27	Oct 28	Oct 29	Oct 30
AMR Co	49 1/2	50 1/2	50 1/2	50 1/2
ASA	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2
At&T	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Bank of Am	44 1/2	44 1/2	44 1/2	44 1/2
Bell	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Boeing	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Chrysler	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Coca Cola	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Exxon	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
GenCorp	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
IBM	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Intel	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
J&J	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Kodak	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
McDonald's	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Merck	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Microsoft	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Motorola	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Novartis	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Oracle	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
PepsiCo	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Pfizer	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Procter & Gamble	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Rockwell	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Schlumberger	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Spacelabs	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Texas Instruments	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Union Carbide	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Wendover	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Weyerhaeuser	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Yale	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2

## On Behalf of a Forgotten Cause...

Seventy years ago, on 28 October 1918, Czechoslovakia was proclaimed an independent and sovereign state. Under its first president Thomas G. Masaryk it became an exemplary democratic country, making a widely recognized contribution to modern civilisation and culture. However, due to post-war partition of Europe, Czechoslovakia lost its freedom and then, in 1968, its sovereignty.

On this anniversary date, in consideration of current changes in the Soviet bloc countries and of improved East-West relations,

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enable Czechs and Slovaks to live in accordance with their centuries-old  
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The rationalization programme leaves the company in a very strong cash position and with little gearing.

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Pre-tax: £0.58 (£3.47m)  
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Div: n/a  
Dividend given incorrectly in yesterday's edition

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Pre-tax: £0.37 (£0.30m)  
EPS: 1.33 (1.63p)  
Div: 1.5 (1.5p)

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Call option: Put option: Call option: Put option:



# Barlow Clowes investors in strongest challenge to DTI

By Lawrence Lever

Alexander Tatham, the solicitors' firm acting for Barlow Clowes investors, yesterday released a 50-page report which provides the strongest challenge so far to the Government's conclusion that it behaved reasonably over the licensing and monitoring of the crashed investment group.

The document is an analysis of Sir Godfrey Le Quesne's report into Barlow Clowes published last week.

Alexander Tatham concludes that "even on the most sympathetic reading" of Sir Godfrey's report, it is "unable to bridge the gap between the information provided by the report" and the Government's

claim that the Department of Trade acted reasonably in relation to Barlow Clowes.

It says Sir Godfrey's report shows:

● Periods of delay for which there is no, or no reasonable, explanation.  
● A failure to heed, or take sufficient account of, a lengthy series of warnings from unimpeachable sources (such as the Stock Exchange and the Bank of England).  
● A failure to use the legal remedies available, either at all or with sufficient expedition.

That the DTI was too influenced by the fear that if it refused or revoked Barlow

Clowes' licence its actions would be challenged by judicial review in the courts.

The Alexander Tatham document criticizes the DTI for assuming that it was unlikely that Barlow Clowes was being mismanaged if its investors had not made complaints — "We find the DTI's reasoning difficult to understand because it is almost axiomatic that whenever there is mismanagement within the running of an investment company, the investors themselves are the last to know."

It adds that the DTI placed too much weight on the calibre of Barlow Clowes' professional advisers. "The

DTI wrongly confused the calibre of the applicant with the calibre of their advisers whereas there is not necessarily any connection between the two."

The Government's argument that it could not have known the offshore operations of Barlow Clowes were selling to UK investors and therefore needed a DTI licence is also given short shrift.

Alexander Tatham points to a passage in the Le Quesne report which shows that a DTI official, when applying in a personal capacity to Barlow Clowes in December 1983, received a leaflet selling an offshore portfolio.

## Buoyant business doubles NHLC

Pre-tax profits at National Home Loans Corporation, the mortgage lending company, more than doubled from £11.1 million to £23.1 million for the year to September 30, on buoyant mortgage business.

The dividend was raised from 5.64p to 7.01p, representing 60 per cent of distributable earnings.

NHLC said the home loans market had been extremely competitive during the year, with volatile interest rates and increased activity from building societies. But the company had avoided cutting its margins in order to defend its share of the lending market.

It increased its lending by £1.2 billion during the year to £2 billion under management and issued five mortgage-backed securities.

It has been talking to several European groups to help them develop their British mortgage business in the run-up to 1992.

Tempos, page 24

## Banner offer worth £102m

Banner Industries, a New York-quoted industrial holding company, has launched a £102 million cash takeover bid for Avdel, the former Newman Industries and a maker of industrial fasteners.

Mr Jeffrey Steiner, chairman and chief executive of Banner, said the two companies had been in merger talks since August, when his company acquired an option over 27.6 per cent of Avdel shares from Suter, Mr David Abell's conglomerate.

Banner's 80p offer is expected to be rejected today by Avdel, shares in which rose 4p to 81p on the news.

Transcontinental Services Group, a London-listed New York investment company in which Banner has a 49 per cent stake, raised its fully-diluted net asset value per share to 282.65p, from 236.33p, in the six months to end-September.

## Suter shares up on bid talk

Thomson T-Line, the conglomerate which early this year took over Vernons Pools, has emerged as the possible bidder for Suter, the industrial holding group.

Suter shares edged ahead 4p to 237p on the announcement, valuing the company at £280 million, against £300 million which Thomson is believed to be prepared to pay.

## COMMENT David Brewerton

# Hard to credit this hunt for the sharks

Here, Tom, how about setting up as a credit broker?  
"No good, Dick, we'll never get a licence."

"But Harry said we won't need one."

Harry is right. The reality of the "crackdown on loan sharks" announced this week by Francis Maude, Minister for Corporate Affairs, is that any old Tom, Dick or Harry will be able to pound the pavements or stand on his used-car lot, offering loans on whatever terms he can get away with.

In one sense, the proposals recognize the existing situation. At present brokers arranging loans are required to have a licence under the Consumer Credit Act. But licence-holders do not need to have their licences renewed for 15 years after their first issue. The licensing system only started in 1976 so some brokers have never had to have their fitness scrutinized.

However, the system is widely acknowledged to be inadequate. It is not unless there are complaints to trading standards officers that they will come to the notice of the authorities. So most brokers are effectively operating without vetting, even if they have a piece of paper described as a credit licence. There is even the danger that brokers will use the licence as an advertising gimmick — "licensed credit brokers", they can proclaim.

Although brokers arranging loans of up to £15,000 will in future not have to be licensed, Maude plans to give the Office of Fair Trading the right to shut down those who are believed to be acting improperly. He also says that lenders (who will still need licences) will have their own licences threatened if their brokers are acting improperly.

It is the brokers who are responsible for most of the aggressive advertising of "consolidation" loans to repay off other debts, frequently marketed to people already deep in trouble. The cost of these loans is often increased by arrangement fees running into thousands, and usually the loans are secured on the borrower's home.

There will be a register of businesses who have licences refused or revoked, and any broker with a bad record will be required to apply for a licence. If ever there was a case of shutting the stable door after the horse has bolted it is this, because it appears there will be nothing to prevent the incompetent, unskilled and probably the dishonest from opening broking businesses.

At a time when there is such a huge protective umbrella being erected over investors through the Financial Services Act, it seems an act of folly to leave the least sophisticated borrowers at the mercy of the sharks until at least some of them have been eaten alive.

## Market ignores ICI virtues

In the old days, ICI used to be tagged as the bellwether of the British economy.

Now that sales in Britain account for only a quarter of the business, this can scarcely be true. Yet the shares are still treated as the plaything of macro-economic numbers. If the pound goes up or there are fears over growth, ICI goes out of favour.

That has been happening steadily this year, while each quarter ICI continues to meet brokers' ever-increasing profit forecasts. The seasonally poor third quarter was right in line at £347 million. Unless the brokers are wildly out for the last three months of the year, therefore, ICI should make £1.47 billion to £1.5 billion for the full year. That would rate the shares at eight times 1988 earnings, about a quarter below the market average.

ICI is performing despite the problems, including losses in fertilizers at home, where group sales have been stagnant, losses on translation of overseas profits of about £50 million, and another £50 million of margin and export problems due to the strength of the pound. In those

circumstances, growth of 15 per cent in earnings per share is not bad.

Ironically, the boom areas have been bulk chemicals, petrochemicals and plastics, where ICI has had a hard time for years both in the UK and Germany. Sterling's rise against the dollar has helped here, because much of the feedstocks are bought in dollars, while the goods are sold in pounds or EMS currencies, against which sterling has risen less. The fallout from the slump has helped too, with some capacity knocked out and investment reined back.

Indeed, ICI is more typical of British business than British economics. It has slimmed traditional businesses — fertilizers are being rationalized again — expanded more specialized ones such as pharmaceuticals and paints, and grown in the US by complex acquisitions such as Stauffer. What is good for ICI is no longer necessarily good for Britain, but that should come as a relief to patient shareholders. In the market, ICI, like so many big companies, is becoming relatively cheaper as its shares stagnate while earnings continue to boom.

## New rules may delay results of takeovers

By Graham Searjeant  
Financial Editor

It could take an extra day to learn the result of big, close-fought takeover battles under new rules drawn up by the City Takeover Panel to ensure there is no confusion about the outcome.

The tightening of rules stems from a study set up after the debacle in February, when Blue Circle claimed to have won control of Birmid Quilcast, only to find later that some shares had been counted twice, and the bid had narrowly failed.

Confusion usually arises from shares which have been bought and sold in the last days of a bid battle, when it is not clear whether some or all of a holding has been assented to the offer.

Under new rules:  
● The bidding company's receiving agent for acceptances (normally a clearing bank) will be responsible for adding up the number of shares the bidding company owns or has bought, as well as acceptances, and cross-checking them.

● Where there have been deals late in the bid period, the accepting agent must check that they are, as the rules put it, "up to registration standard". This may mean double-checking purchase documents with the matching sale documents, which can take an extra day.

● The receiving agent must then send a certificate of the total of shares owned and valid acceptances to the offeror, the advisers of the company being bid for and the Takeover Panel.

On the final closing day, acceptances must be in by 1pm and under the takeover rules, the result must normally be announced by 5pm. The Panel can issue a dispensation in difficult cases.

## Tie Rack ahead of forecasts



Family ties: Roy Bishko, the chairman, flanked by Gordon Thoday and his sister Felicity, who runs the franchise for Tie Rack in London's Fleet Street (Photograph: Chris Harris)

Tie Rack, the specialist retailer chaired by Mr Roy Bishko, has beaten City predictions by raising pre-tax profits 72 per cent to £374,000 in the 28 weeks to August 14. The shares added 5p to 93p (Martin Waller writes).

Mr Bishko said current trading was satisfactory and he was confident of a strong performance in the full year. Sales growth from £9.55 million to £15.24 million dispensed a like-for-like increase of 16 per cent, disregarding the effect of the company's heavy programme of stores openings.

The interim dividend is raised 0.1p to 0.465p. The retail team at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the company's broker, is sticking to earlier forecasts of £3.5 million pre-tax in the current year, but is looking for profits growth to be maintained thereafter, with more than £4.5 million next year.

The half-year figures came in ahead of their £350,000 forecast, the broker believes, because of good organic sales growth and because the cost of expanding in the US had not been as great as the company had feared.

## Securiguard branches out

By Michael Clark, Stock Market Correspondent

Securiguard Group, one of Britain's leading security and industrial cleaning groups, has hit the takeover trail with a clutch of acquisitions which take it into the personnel services industry.

In the biggest of the deals, it has bought HeMan Contracts, which supplies tradesmen to the building and civil engineering industries. Securiguard is making an initial

downpayment of £5 million and £500,000 worth of shares.

HeMan has achieved compound growth in profits since 1984 of 68 per cent and last year made pre-tax profits of £940,000 on turnover of £12 million.

It has also bought Action Secretaries of London, which supplies secretarial and office personnel. Securiguard has made an initial payment of

£758,000 and says a further payment will be made, depending on the company's profitability.

Finally, it has bought Portman, which supplies contract staff in the secretarial, computing, banking and legal fields.

An initial cash consideration of £500,000 has been paid, with the balance again dependent on results.

## Shipbuilders to review site values

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

British Shipbuilders, in reassessing bids for closure-threatened North East Shipbuilders (NESL) at Sunderland, is expected to look carefully at the potential site values involved.

Whether development valuation of the yards will prove another stumbling block for the four bidders for NESL is not clear. The value of the yards is thought to be variable, depending on the uses that might be applied to them, but property agents in the region estimate the highest possible price at about £7 million.

British Shipbuilders is acting against the background of

the growing dispute over valuations of Royal Ordnance factory sites when they were acquired by British Aerospace as the plants were privatized by the Government.

The bidders for NESL have been given the chance until noon today to revise their offers. Mr Peter Zocchi of the PZ Shipping Company plans to visit British Shipbuilders this morning to discuss possible amendments to his offer which relies on securing a £100 million order from Cuba.

A decision on NESL's fate had been expected this week but Mr Anthony Newton, the

Trade and Industry Minister, opted for postponement to allow additional time for negotiations. A decision is now expected next week. Although the postponement has raised hopes that shipbuilding might continue on Wearside, closure of the yards still looks likely.

There are two yards on either side of the River Wear, covering 120 acres in total. A site on the north bank, the one-time Austin & Pickersgill yard, could, although in an industrial area, have residential or other non-industrial potential, according to regional property agents. Resi-

dential land in the area is worth about £100,000 an acre.

But industrial land of this kind along Wearside is worth only about £20,000 an acre because there are so many sites available. Some prime industrial sites bring up to £30,000 an acre.

It means the estimated value of the NESL sites could be between £2.4 million and about £7 million, assuming the south bank yard remains in industrial use. Agents believe this site, slightly larger than the one on the north bank, is unsuitable for residential development.

### CANADIAN OVERSEAS PACKAGING INDUSTRIES LIMITED

(Incorporated under the laws of Canada)

NOTICE OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Twenty-Seventh Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Canadian Overseas Packaging Industries Limited will be held at Suite 400, 1 Place Ville Marie, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3B 4M4 on Tuesday, the 6th day of December, 1988 at 11 a.m. for the following purposes:

1. To receive and consider the report of the Directors and the consolidated financial statements of the Corporation and its subsidiaries for the year ended June 30, 1988 together with the report of the Auditors thereon;
2. To elect Directors;
3. To appoint Auditors and to authorize the Directors to fix their remuneration; and
4. To transact such other business as may be brought before the meeting.

Shareholders who are unable to attend the foregoing Meeting are requested to complete and return the enclosed form of proxy to the address stated thereon at least 48 hours before the time appointed for the holding of the said Meeting.

October 28, 1988

By Order of the Board

M. C. JOHNSTON O.C.

Director and Secretary

Registered Office Mailing Address

P.O. Box 7289, Postal Station A, Saint John, New Brunswick, CANADA E2L 4S6

### CANADIAN OVERSEAS PACKAGING INDUSTRIES LIMITED

(Incorporated under the laws of Canada)

DECLARATION OF DIVIDEND

The Directors have declared the following dividend payable to Shareholders registered at the close of business on November 25th 1988.

COMMON SHARES (Dividend No. 30)

44 Canadian cents per share for the year to June 30, 1988. (The comparative figures for 1987 is 41 Canadian cents).

The payment date for the dividend is December 16, 1988. The dividend will be paid in the customary currencies, related to the registered address of a Shareholder, in accordance with the by-laws of the Corporation.

October 28, 1988

By Order of the Board

M. C. JOHNSTON O.C.

Director and Secretary

Registered Office Mailing Address

P.O. Box 7289, Postal Station A, Saint John, New Brunswick, CANADA E2L 4S6

## Castles and the heir

The worthy citizens of Skipton, the Dales market centre with a population of just 12,000, are waiting today to see what criticism the Prince of Wales may launch at the medieval town's more recent architecture. The Prince was filmed on a visit last March to North Yorkshire for footage for *Omnibus: A Vision of Britain*, which goes out tonight at 10.20 on BBC1. In the programme he talks about his controversial views of the state of Britain's buildings. Although the Prince was in Skipton to see a new shopping development, I am told that when visiting the local castle — which dominates the skyline from a wooded cliff-top — his eye was drawn by the "awful" sight of Skipton Building Society headquarters. As the town's largest employer, the four-storey stone edifice presents a completely blank wall to the fortress. As such, it is deemed by some as suitable only for a son of *lumiere* backdrop for a Cavalier versus Roundheads recreation of the castle's role in the three-year siege it withstood during the Civil War, before it fell to Cromwell's army.

## I see no ships

The latest country wanting to join the list of nations which allows shipowners to register vessels under its flag is Luxembourg. But the EEC's smallest country is landlocked, by Belgium, France

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

# Tokyo bites the bullet

Pity the executives at Nomura, Daiwa, Nikko and Yamaichi, Japan's top four stockbroking firms. Their traditional year-end bonuses are being cut by up to 20 per cent because profits are not as good as had been hoped, and they want to set an example to be followed by employees lower down the line. The companies say lower stock trading commissions and

sluggish bond trading are to blame. So how have things in the world's most vibrant stock market? Well, Daiwa is expecting pre-tax profits to slump by 23 per cent to ¥225 billion, which is slightly more than £1 billion. Nomura is talking about pre-tax profits of ¥400 billion. Heaven knows what happens when times are really bad.

and West Germany. The Grand Duchy, however, has been not deterred by that small problem, and is proceeding with its plans to introduce a shipping flag as a diversification for its lucrative financial services sector. The powers-that-be hope that overseas shipowners to be drawn to the country by attractive corporation tax concessions. Is the establishment of the Luxembourg Navy to protect the ships far behind?

## Perléstroika

Despite, or perhaps because of, Mikhail Gorbachev's attempts to reduce the level of alcoholism in the Soviet Union, Russia may soon become the world's largest wine producer. According to *Sotheby's Wine Encyclopedia*, annual output in the USSR is at present running around 5.3 million bottles. Only Italy, with 10.3 million

bottles, and France, with 10.1 million, produce more. Sotheby's reckons that by the mid-1990s the Russians will be the biggest producers of all. But although the buffs tell me that Georgian wine is quite decent, a British friend, working as a correspondent in Moscow, recently sent a plaintive message demanding the immediate dispatch of a case of French red wine.



## Reporting restricted

Shareholders in TNT may have been thrilled to receive with their copy of the annual report a slip permitting them to opt not to receive such a thing again. The company explains that a recent ruling of the National Companies and Securities Commission in Australia — TNT is an Australian company — allows it to give shareholders the choice of whether to continue to receive the report or not. A similar change here depends on the Government's intentions towards the Companies Bill. But it may also seem more relevant since the recent postal strike, when companies were faced with complying with their statutory obligations, including using the mail to post reports, without the benefit of the service. Such a change would come as a blessing to groups such as British Gas, British Telecom, TSB and BAA, whose shareholder registers are weighed down with people whose dividends are less than the cost of the report they receive and never read. Bad luck, though, on the advertising agencies who make a packet from producing the slim volumes.

● The penchant exhibited by other nationalities for awful drinks, such as the American taste for sweetened iced tea — which everyone else realizes is simply stewed and cold — is legendary. But the Japanese have come up with the worst so far — Sapporo Breweries is launching a beer which is to be drunk, as its name suggests, "On the Rocks."

Rosemary Unsworth

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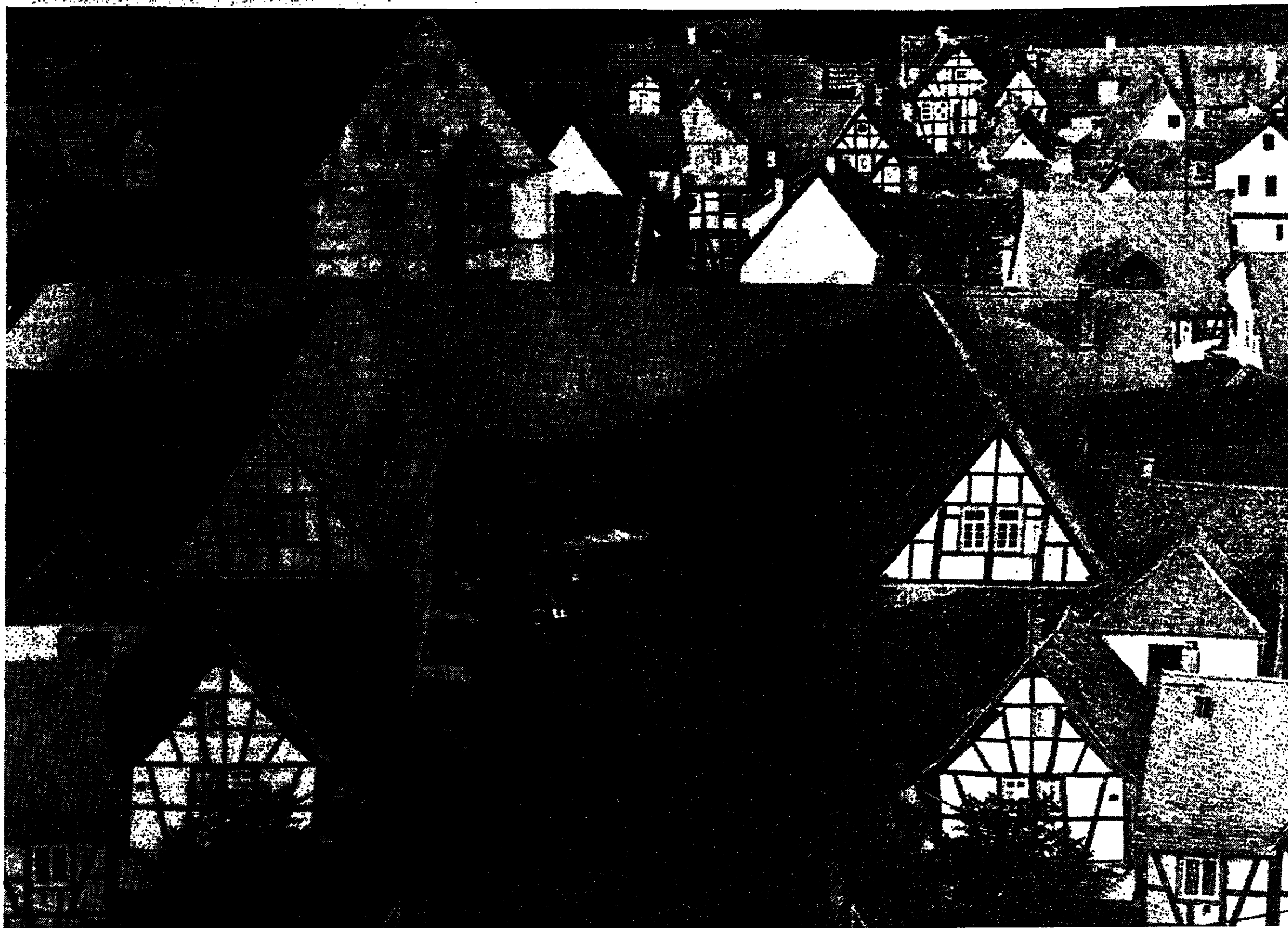


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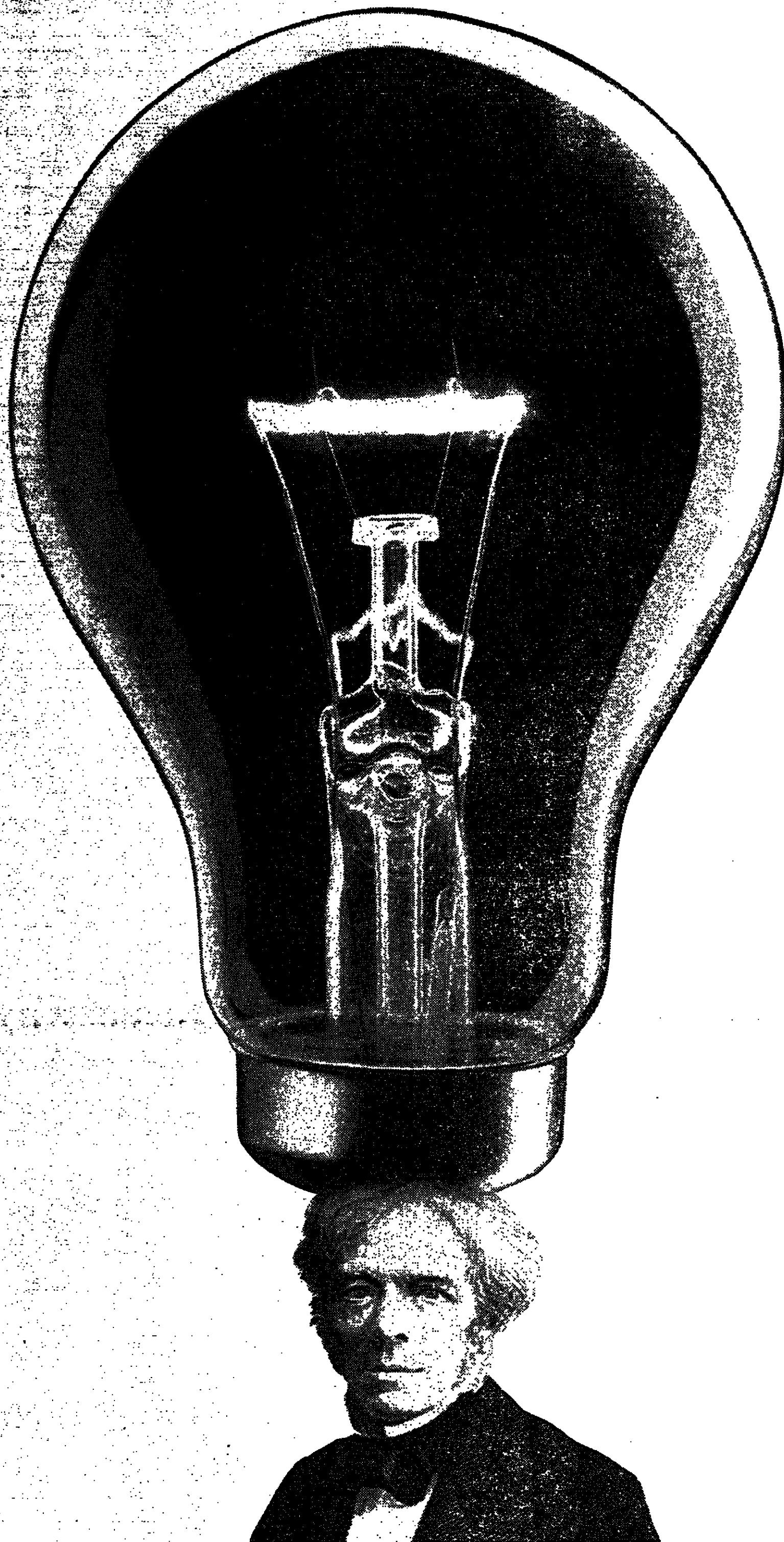
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## Mr. Faraday's idea was bigger than he knew

Making electricity is simple, as Michael Faraday taught us in 1831. If you keep spinning a copper disc inside a magnet, you'll generate a continuous supply.

Generating enough electricity, on the other hand, has created one of the biggest businesses in Britain, with assets of around £25 billion.

Our turnover last year was more than £8 billion, our trading profit £590 million. We still use magnets and copper. But on a massive scale, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

And we use good old steam power to turn most of our turbines. But to get up a sufficient head of steam we need a massive fuel supply.

Our annual fuel bill is over £4 billion, more than half our total costs. So keeping fuel costs down is clearly essential for our business.

And for the nation's business. Just about everyone in England and Wales uses our electricity. We have to generate as much as is needed, at as low a price as possible.

So we use many different fuels; fossil and nuclear.

And we'll continue to seek new sources of power: to harness the wind and the tides and the heat beneath the earth's surface.

Our efforts are needed not only to keep prices down, but to satisfy a widely fluctuating demand, day and night, summer and winter; through storms and strikes and other acts of God or man.

That's the generating game: high stakes, tough rules and plenty of challenges. But it's a game we have to go on winning.

By using our magnets, like Mr Faraday said.

## THE GENERATING GAME

CENTRAL ELECTRICITY GENERATING BOARD



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## UNLISTED SECURITIES

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## INVESTMENT TRUSTS

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80																				

## FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Sterling Index compared with 1975 was 75.75 (today's change 75.3-75.5).				
STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES				
Market rates for October 27				
	1 month	3 months	6 months	1 year
New York	1.7590-1.7730	2.0385-2.0585	2.31-2.34	2.73-2.76
London	2.1030-2.1130	2.4130-2.4230	2.71-2.74	3.01-3.04
Amsterdam	3.5153-3.5253	3.5450-3.5550	3.57-3.6	3.57-3.6
Brussels	3.56-3.57	3.56-3.57	3.56-3.57	3.56-3.57
Frankfurt	12.1024-12.1124	12.1024-12.1124	12.1024-12.1124	12.1024-12.1124
Dallas	1.1886-1.1782	1.1737-1.1737	1.16-1.16	1.16-1.16
Chicago	1.1886-1.1782	1.1737-1.1737	1.16-1.16	1.16-1.16
Liason	203.1-203.2	203.0-203.0	203.0-203.0	203.0-203.0
Madrid	203.0-203.0	203.0-203.0	203.0-203.0	203.0-203.0
Mexico	203.0-203.0	203.0-203.0	203.0-203.0	203.0-203.0
Paris	11.2228-11.2311	11.2228-11.2311	11.2228-11.2311	11.2228-11.2311
Rio	10.8511-10.8511	10.8511-10.8511	10.8511-10.8511	10.8511-10.8511
Sao Paulo	10.8511-10.8511	10.8511-10.8511	10.8511-10.8511	10.8511-10.8511
Stockholm	220.8-222.67	222.5-222.5	222.5-222.5	222.5-222.5
Tokyo	170.0-170.0	170.0-170.0	170.0-170.0	170.0-170.0
Winnipeg	2.6452-2.6452	2.6452-2.6452	2.6452-2.6452	2.6452-2.6452

Premium = pc. Discount = dc.

OTHER STERLING RATES	
Argentine dollar	26.6594-26.6594
Australian dollar	1.9441-1.9441
Belgian franc	2.7187-2.7187
Brazil cruzeiro	2.7187-2.7187
Canadian dollar	2.7187-2.7187
French franc	2.7187-2.7187
German mark	2.7187-2.7187
Italian lire	2.7187-2.7187
Japanese yen	2.7187-2.7187
Spanish peseta	2.7187-2.7187
Swedish krona	2.7187-2.7187
Swiss franc	2.7187-2.7187
U.S. dollar	2.7187-2.7187
U.S. dollar (gold)	2.7187-2.7187
U.S. dollar (oil)	2.7187-2.7187
U.S. dollar (gas)	2.7187-2.7187
U.S. dollar (cotton)	2.7187-2.7187
U.S. dollar (wheat)	2.7187-2.7187
U.S. dollar (corn)	2.7187-2.7187
U.S. dollar (sugar)	2.7187-2.7187
U.S. dollar (rice)	2.7187-2.7187
U.S. dollar (beans)	2.7187-2.7187
U.S. dollar (soybeans)	2.7187-2.7187
U.S. dollar (wheat)	2.7187-2.7187
U	

## MONEY MARKETS

[illegible]

4. *Conclusions*

[illegible]

## ON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol		Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
<b>FT-SE 100</b>						<b>UK Treasury Bond</b>					
Dec 16	181.42	182.00	181.30	181.50	14591	Dec 16	90.42	90.48	90.31	90.38	14391
Dec 18	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT	May 07	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT
<b>Three Month Sterling</b>						<b>US Govt</b>					
Dec 16	57.20	57.30	57.10	57.20	9822	Dec 16	94.27	94.30	94.22	94.22	29875
Mar 19	56.30	56.35	56.25	56.30	97	Mar 07	94.27	94.32	94.22	94.20	29875
Jun 19	56.30	56.35	56.25	56.30	97	Jun 07	94.27	94.32	94.22	94.20	29875
Sep 19	56.25	56.30	56.15	56.25	148	<b>Japanese Govt Bond</b>					
						Dec 16	100.04	100.00	99.94	99.94	872
<b>Three Month Eurodollar</b>						Dec 18	100.04	100.00	99.94	99.94	872
Dec 16	51.51	51.59	51.29	51.50	222	Dec 18	100.04	100.00	99.94	99.94	872
Dec 18	51.51	51.59	51.29	51.50	222	<b>German Govt Bond</b>					
Jan 19	51.51	51.59	51.29	51.50	137	Dec 16	100.04	100.00	99.94	99.94	872
Apr 19	51.51	51.59	51.29	51.50	137	Dec 18	100.04	100.00	99.94	99.94	872
Jul 19	51.51	51.59	51.29	51.50	137	Dec 18	100.04	100.00	99.94	99.94	872
Sep 19	51.51	51.59	51.29	51.50	137	Dec 18	100.04	100.00	99.94	99.94	872

## COMMODITIES

LONDON RICE		LONDON METAL EXCHANGE			
COCOA		Official prices: previous day			
Disc 755-776	Sh 2nd 776-780	Copper		3 month	Val
Mar 776-778	Oct 776-780	Future India A	573.50-574.75	155.00-155.25	Tonnes
Nov 776-778	Dec 776-780	Future India B	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jan 776-780	Feb 776-780	Future India C	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
COFFEES		Future India D	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Nov 111-110	Dec 111-110	Future India E	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jan 111-112	Feb 111-112	Future India F	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Mar 112-113	Apr 112-113	Future India G	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
May 112-113	Jun 112-113	Future India H	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jul 112-113	Aug 112-113	Future India I	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
SUGAR		Future India J	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Disc 541.4-542.2	Sh 541.4-542.2	Future India K	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Mar 541.4-542.2	Apr 541.4-542.2	Future India L	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
May 541.4-542.2	Jun 541.4-542.2	Future India M	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jul 541.4-542.2	Aug 541.4-542.2	Future India N	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Oct 541.4-542.2	Nov 541.4-542.2	Future India O	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Dec 541.4-542.2	Jan 541.4-542.2	Future India P	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Feb 541.4-542.2	Mar 541.4-542.2	Future India Q	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Apr 541.4-542.2	May 541.4-542.2	Future India R	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jun 541.4-542.2	Jul 541.4-542.2	Future India S	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Aug 541.4-542.2	Sep 541.4-542.2	Future India T	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Oct 541.4-542.2	Nov 541.4-542.2	Future India U	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Dec 541.4-542.2	Jan 541.4-542.2	Future India V	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Feb 541.4-542.2	Mar 541.4-542.2	Future India W	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Apr 541.4-542.2	May 541.4-542.2	Future India X	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jun 541.4-542.2	Jul 541.4-542.2	Future India Y	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Aug 541.4-542.2	Sep 541.4-542.2	Future India Z	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Oct 541.4-542.2	Nov 541.4-542.2	Future India AA	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Dec 541.4-542.2	Jan 541.4-542.2	Future India AB	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Feb 541.4-542.2	Mar 541.4-542.2	Future India AC	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Apr 541.4-542.2	May 541.4-542.2	Future India AD	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jun 541.4-542.2	Jul 541.4-542.2	Future India AE	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Aug 541.4-542.2	Sep 541.4-542.2	Future India AF	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Oct 541.4-542.2	Nov 541.4-542.2	Future India AG	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Dec 541.4-542.2	Jan 541.4-542.2	Future India AH	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Feb 541.4-542.2	Mar 541.4-542.2	Future India AI	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Apr 541.4-542.2	May 541.4-542.2	Future India AJ	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jun 541.4-542.2	Jul 541.4-542.2	Future India AK	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Aug 541.4-542.2	Sep 541.4-542.2	Future India AL	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Oct 541.4-542.2	Nov 541.4-542.2	Future India AM	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Dec 541.4-542.2	Jan 541.4-542.2	Future India AN	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Feb 541.4-542.2	Mar 541.4-542.2	Future India AO	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Apr 541.4-542.2	May 541.4-542.2	Future India AP	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jun 541.4-542.2	Jul 541.4-542.2	Future India AQ	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Aug 541.4-542.2	Sep 541.4-542.2	Future India AR	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Oct 541.4-542.2	Nov 541.4-542.2	Future India AS	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Dec 541.4-542.2	Jan 541.4-542.2	Future India AT	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Feb 541.4-542.2	Mar 541.4-542.2	Future India AU	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Apr 541.4-542.2	May 541.4-542.2	Future India AV	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jun 541.4-542.2	Jul 541.4-542.2	Future India AW	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Aug 541.4-542.2	Sep 541.4-542.2	Future India AX	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Oct 541.4-542.2	Nov 541.4-542.2	Future India AY	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Dec 541.4-542.2	Jan 541.4-542.2	Future India AZ	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Feb 541.4-542.2	Mar 541.4-542.2	Future India BA	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Apr 541.4-542.2	May 541.4-542.2	Future India BB	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jun 541.4-542.2	Jul 541.4-542.2	Future India BC	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Aug 541.4-542.2	Sep 541.4-542.2	Future India BD	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Oct 541.4-542.2	Nov 541.4-542.2	Future India BE	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Dec 541.4-542.2	Jan 541.4-542.2	Future India BF	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Feb 541.4-542.2	Mar 541.4-542.2	Future India BG	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Apr 541.4-542.2	May 541.4-542.2	Future India BH	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jun 541.4-542.2	Jul 541.4-542.2	Future India BI	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Aug 541.4-542.2	Sep 541.4-542.2	Future India BJ	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Oct 541.4-542.2	Nov 541.4-542.2	Future India BK	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Dec 541.4-542.2	Jan 541.4-542.2	Future India BL	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Feb 541.4-542.2	Mar 541.4-542.2	Future India BM	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Apr 541.4-542.2	May 541.4-542.2	Future India BN	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jun 541.4-542.2	Jul 541.4-542.2	Future India BO	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Aug 541.4-542.2	Sep 541.4-542.2	Future India BP	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Oct 541.4-542.2	Nov 541.4-542.2	Future India BQ	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Dec 541.4-542.2	Jan 541.4-542.2	Future India BR	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Feb 541.4-542.2	Mar 541.4-542.2	Future India BS	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Apr 541.4-542.2	May 541.4-542.2	Future India BT	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jun 541.4-542.2	Jul 541.4-542.2	Future India BU	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Aug 541.4-542.2	Sep 541.4-542.2	Future India BV	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Oct 541.4-542.2	Nov 541.4-542.2	Future India BW	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Dec 541.4-542.2	Jan 541.4-542.2	Future India BX	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Feb 541.4-542.2	Mar 541.4-542.2	Future India BY	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Apr 541.4-542.2	May 541.4-542.2	Future India BZ	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jun 541.4-542.2	Jul 541.4-542.2	Future India CA	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Aug 541.4-542.2	Sep 541.4-542.2	Future India CB	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Oct 541.4-542.2	Nov 541.4-542.2	Future India CC	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Dec 541.4-542.2	Jan 541.4-542.2	Future India CD	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Feb 541.4-542.2	Mar 541.4-542.2	Future India CE	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Apr 541.4-542.2	May 541.4-542.2	Future India CF	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jun 541.4-542.2	Jul 541.4-542.2	Future India CG	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Aug 541.4-542.2	Sep 541.4-542.2	Future India CH	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Oct 541.4-542.2	Nov 541.4-542.2	Future India CI	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Dec 541.4-542.2	Jan 541.4-542.2	Future India CJ	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Feb 541.4-542.2	Mar 541.4-542.2	Future India CK	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Apr 541.4-542.2	May 541.4-542.2	Future India CL	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jun 541.4-542.2	Jul 541.4-542.2	Future India CM	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Aug 541.4-542.2	Sep 541.4-542.2	Future India CN	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Oct 541.4-542.2	Nov 541.4-542.2	Future India CO	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Dec 541.4-542.2	Jan 541.4-542.2	Future India CP	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Feb 541.4-542.2	Mar 541.4-542.2	Future India CQ	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Apr 541.4-542.2	May 541.4-542.2	Future India CR	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jun 541.4-542.2	Jul 541.4-542.2	Future India CS	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Aug 541.4-542.2	Sep 541.4-542.2	Future India CT	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Oct 541.4-542.2	Nov 541.4-542.2	Future India CU	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Dec 541.4-542.2	Jan 541.4-542.2	Future India CV	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Feb 541.4-542.2	Mar 541.4-542.2	Future India CW	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Apr 541.4-542.2	May 541.4-542.2	Future India CX	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jun 541.4-542.2	Jul 541.4-542.2	Future India CY	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Aug 541.4-542.2	Sep 541.4-542.2	Future India CZ	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Oct 541.4-542.2	Nov 541.4-542.2	Future India DA	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Dec 541.4-542.2	Jan 541.4-542.2	Future India DB	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Feb 541.4-542.2	Mar 541.4-542.2	Future India DC	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Apr 541.4-542.2	May 541.4-542.2	Future India DD	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jun 541.4-542.2	Jul 541.4-542.2	Future India DE	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Aug 541.4-542.2	Sep 541.4-542.2	Future India DF	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Oct 541.4-542.2	Nov 541.4-542.2	Future India DG	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Dec 541.4-542.2	Jan 541.4-542.2	Future India DH	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Feb 541.4-542.2	Mar 541.4-542.2	Future India DI	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Apr 541.4-542.2	May 541.4-542.2	Future India DJ	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jun 541.4-542.2	Jul 541.4-542.2	Future India DK	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Aug 541.4-542.2	Sep 541.4-542.2	Future India DL	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Oct 541.4-542.2	Nov 541.4-542.2	Future India DM	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Dec 541.4-542.2	Jan 541.4-542.2	Future India DN	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Feb 541.4-542.2	Mar 541.4-542.2	Future India DO	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Apr 541.4-542.2	May 541.4-542.2	Future India DP	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Jun 541.4-542.2	Jul 541.4-542.2	Future India DQ	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Aug 541.4-542.2	Sep 541.4-542.2	Future India DR	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Oct 541.4-542.2	Nov 541.4-542.2	Future India DS	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Dec 541.4-542.2	Jan 541.4-542.2	Future India DT	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Feb 541.4-542.2	Mar 541.4-542.2	Future India DU	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5
Apr 541.4-542.2	May 541.4-542.2	Future India DV	573.00-1580.00	155.00-155.25	4700/5



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# STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

## Shares below best

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began October 17. Dealings end today. Contango day October 31. Settlement day November 7.  
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (as) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES: PAGE 30).

### Portfolio PLUS Accumulator

From your Portfolio gold card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily or accumulator dividend figures. If it matches or better this figure you have won outright or a share for the daily or accumulator prize money. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Price	Change	%	Dividend	Yield	P/E
1	Comwell Park	Industrials A-D	1.25	0.01	0.8	0.05	4.0	12.5
2	Land Sea	Property	1.10	0.01	0.9	0.05	4.5	11.0
3	Northwell	Industrials L-R	1.05	0.01	0.9	0.05	4.8	10.5
4	Recher King	Property	1.00	0.01	1.0	0.05	5.0	10.0
5	Freemantle	Industrials L-R	0.95	0.01	1.0	0.05	5.3	9.5
6	Sea (as)	Industrials	0.90	0.01	1.1	0.05	5.6	9.0
7	St. Helens	Industrials S-Z	0.85	0.01	1.2	0.05	6.0	8.5
8	Trident Park	Property	0.80	0.01	1.2	0.05	6.3	8.0
9	Comwell	Industrials	0.75	0.01	1.3	0.05	6.7	7.5
10	Comwell (as)	Industrials B-K	0.70	0.01	1.4	0.05	7.0	7.0
11	BAT (as)	Tobacco	0.65	0.01	1.5	0.05	7.4	6.5
12	British	Newspapers	0.60	0.01	1.6	0.05	7.8	6.0
13	Blockley	Building Roads	0.55	0.01	1.8	0.05	8.5	5.5
14	Rich Lovell	Food	0.50	0.01	2.0	0.05	9.0	5.0
15	Q&A	Property	0.45	0.01	2.2	0.05	9.5	4.5
16	DAKS Simpson	Property	0.40	0.01	2.5	0.05	10.0	4.0
17	Rich & Thomas	Property	0.35	0.01	2.8	0.05	10.5	3.5
18	P & O (as)	Shipping	0.30	0.01	3.3	0.05	12.0	3.0
19	More O'Hara	Property	0.25	0.01	4.0	0.05	14.0	2.5
20	Walsley	Industrials S-Z	0.20	0.01	5.0	0.05	17.0	2.0
21	Haynes Publishing	Newspapers	0.15	0.01	6.7	0.05	22.0	1.5
22	Morgan Crucible	Banking	0.10	0.01	10.0	0.05	33.0	1.0
23	Lafayette	Banking	0.05	0.01	20.0	0.05	66.0	0.5
24	Shirley & Fisher	Building Roads	0.04	0.01	25.0	0.05	80.0	0.4
25	BET (as)	Industrials A-D	0.03	0.01	33.3	0.05	100.0	0.3
26	Barnall (as)	Oil/Gas	0.02	0.01	50.0	0.05	166.0	0.2
27	Harwood Foods	Food	0.01	0.01	100.0	0.05	333.0	0.1
28	Asco Fisheries	Food	0.00	0.01	>100	0.05	>333	0.0
29	RMC (as)	Building Roads	0.00	0.01	>100	0.05	>333	0.0
30	Barr (AG)	Food	0.00	0.01	>100	0.05	>333	0.0
31	AB Food (as)	Food	0.00	0.01	>100	0.05	>333	0.0
32	Stonley	Building Roads	0.00	0.01	>100	0.05	>333	0.0
33	Bonnie	Property	0.00	0.01	>100	0.05	>333	0.0
34	Scholar (as)	Electronics	0.00	0.01	>100	0.05	>333	0.0
35	Aspex	Building Roads	0.00	0.01	>100	0.05	>333	0.0
36	SPD (as)	Building Roads	0.00	0.01	>100	0.05	>333	0.0
37	Stic	Electronics	0.00	0.01	>100	0.05	>333	0.0
38	Hawker Siddeley (as)	Industrials B-K	0.00	0.01	>100	0.05	>333	0.0
39	Waterhouse Risk	Chemicals	0.00	0.01	>100	0.05	>333	0.0
40	BOC (as)	Industrials A-D	0.00	0.01	>100	0.05	>333	0.0
41	Tie Rack	Property	0.00	0.01	>100	0.05	>333	0.0
42	Corn Virella (as)	Property	0.00	0.01	>100	0.05	>333	0.0
43	Warbury	Banking	0.00	0.01	>100	0.05	>333	0.0

Please take into account any minus signs.

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in tomorrow's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

### BRITISH FUNDS

High Low Stock Price Change %

SHORTS (Under Five Years)	Price	Change	%
1	1.25	0.01	0.8
2	1.10	0.01	0.9
3	1.05	0.01	0.9
4	1.00	0.01	1.0
5	0.95	0.01	1.0
6	0.90	0.01	1.1
7	0.85	0.01	1.2
8	0.80	0.01	1.2
9	0.75	0.01	1.3
10	0.70	0.01	1.4
11	0.65	0.01	1.5
12	0.60	0.01	1.6
13	0.55	0.01	1.8
14	0.50	0.01	2.0
15	0.45	0.01	2.2
16	0.40	0.01	2.5
17	0.35	0.01	2.8
18	0.30	0.01	3.3
19	0.25	0.01	4.0
20	0.20	0.01	5.0
21	0.15	0.01	6.7
22	0.10	0.01	10.0
23	0.05	0.01	20.0
24	0.04	0.01	25.0
25	0.03	0.01	33.3
26	0.02	0.01	50.0
27	0.01	0.01	100.0

### FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Price	Change	%
1.25	0.01	0.8
1.10	0.01	0.9
1.05	0.01	0.9
1.00	0.01	1.0
0.95	0.01	1.0
0.90	0.01	1.1
0.85	0.01	1.2
0.80	0.01	1.2
0.75	0.01	1.3
0.70	0.01	1.4
0.65	0.01	1.5
0.60	0.01	1.6
0.55	0.01	1.8
0.50	0.01	2.0
0.45	0.01	2.2
0.40	0.01	2.5
0.35	0.01	2.8
0.30	0.01	3.3
0.25	0.01	4.0
0.20	0.01	5.0
0.15	0.01	6.7
0.10	0.01	10.0
0.05	0.01	20.0
0.04	0.01	25.0
0.03	0.01	33.3
0.02	0.01	50.0
0.01	0.01	100.0

### OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Price	Change	%
1.25	0.01	0.8
1.10	0.01	0.9
1.05	0.01	0.9
1.00	0.01	1.0
0.95	0.01	1.0
0.90	0.01	1.1
0.85	0.01	1.2
0.80	0.01	1.2
0.75	0.01	1.3
0.70	0.01	1.4
0.65	0.01	1.5
0.60	0.01	1.6
0.55	0.01	1.8
0.50	0.01	2.0
0.45	0.01	2.2
0.40	0.01	2.5
0.35	0.01	2.8
0.30	0.01	3.3
0.25	0.01	4.0
0.20	0.01	5.0
0.15	0.01	6.7
0.10	0.01	10.0
0.05	0.01	20.0
0.04	0.01	25.0
0.03	0.01	33.3
0.02	0.01	50.0
0.01	0.01	100.0

### UNDATED

Price	Change	%
1.25	0.01	0.8
1.10	0.01	0.9
1.05	0.01	0.9
1.00	0.01	1.0
0.95	0.01	1.0
0.90	0.01	1.1
0.85	0.01	1.2
0.80	0.01	1.2
0.75	0.01	1.3
0.70	0.01	1.4
0.65	0.01	1.5
0.60	0.01	1.6
0.55	0.01	1.8
0.50	0.01	2.0
0.45	0.01	2.2
0.40	0.01	2.5
0.35	0.01	2.8
0.30	0.01	3.3
0.25	0.01	4.0
0.20	0.01	5.0
0.15	0.01	6.7
0.10	0.01	10.0
0.05	0.01	20.0
0.04	0.01	25.0
0.03	0.01	33.3
0.02	0.01	50.0
0.01	0.01	100.0

### INDEX-LINKED

Price	Change	%
1.25	0.01	0.8
1.10	0.01	0.9
1.05	0.01	0.9
1.00	0.01	1.0
0.95	0.01	1.0
0.90	0.01	1.1
0.85	0.01	1.2
0.80	0.01	1.2
0.75	0.01	1.3
0.70	0.01	1.4
0.65	0.01	1.5
0.60	0.01	1.6
0.55	0.01	1.8
0.50	0.01	2.0
0.45	0.01	2.2
0.40	0.01	2.5
0.35	0.01	2.8
0.30	0.01	3.3
0.25	0.01	4.0
0.20	0.01	5.0
0.15	0.01	6.7
0.10	0.01	10.0
0.05	0.01	20.0
0.04	0.01	25.0
0.03	0.01	33.3
0.02	0.01	50.0
0.01	0.01	100.0

### BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

Price	Change	%
1.25	0.01	0.8
1.10	0.01	0.9
1.05	0.01	0.9
1.00	0.01	1.0
0.95	0.01	1.0
0.90	0.01	1.1
0.85	0.01	1.2
0.80	0.01	1.2
0.75	0.01	1.3
0.70	0.01	1.4
0.65	0.01	1.5
0.60	0.01	1.6
0.55	0.01	1.8
0.50	0.01	2.0
0.45	0.01	2.2
0.40	0.01	2.5
0.35	0.01	2.8
0.30	0.01	3.3
0.25	0.01	4.0
0.20	0.01	5.0
0.15	0.01	6.7
0.10	0.01	10.0
0.05	0.01	20.0
0.04	0.01	25.0
0.03	0.01	33.3
0.02	0.01	50.0
0.01	0.01	100.0

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Dividend	Yield	P/E
1.25	1.20	Comwell Park	1.25	0.01	0.8	0.05	4.0	12.5
1.10	1.05	Land Sea	1.10	0.01	0.9	0.05	4.5	11.0
1.05	1.00	Northwell	1.05	0.01	0.9	0.05	4.8	10.5
1.00	0.95	Recher King	1.00	0.01	1.0	0.05	5.0	10.0
0.95	0.90	Freemantle	0.95	0.01	1.0	0.05	5.3	9.5

### BREWERIES

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Dividend	Yield	P/E
1.25	1.20	Comwell Park	1.25	0.01	0.8	0.05	4.0	12.5
1.10	1.05	Land Sea	1.10	0.01	0.9	0.05	4.5	11.0
1.05	1.00	Northwell	1.05	0.01	0.9	0.05	4.8	10.5
1.00	0.95	Recher King	1.00	0.01	1.0	0.05	5.0	10.0
0.95	0.90	Freemantle	0.95	0.01	1.0	0.05	5.3	9.5

### BUILDING, ROADS

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Dividend	Yield	P/E
1.25	1.20	Comwell Park	1.25	0.01	0.8	0.05	4.0	12.5
1.10	1.05	Land Sea	1.10	0.01	0.9	0.05	4.5	11.0
1.05	1.00	Northwell	1.05	0.01	0.9	0.05	4.8	10.5
1.00	0.95	Recher King	1.00	0.01	1.0	0.05	5.0	10.0
0.95	0.90	Freemantle	0.95	0.01	1.0	0.05	5.3	9.5

### FINANCE, LAND

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Dividend	Yield	P/E
1.25	1.20	Comwell Park	1.25	0.01	0.8	0.05	4.0	12.5
1.10	1.05	Land Sea	1.10	0.01	0.9	0.05	4.5	11.0
1.05	1.00	Northwell	1.05	0.01	0.9	0.05	4.8	10.5
1.00	0.95	Recher King	1.00	0.01	1.0	0.05	5.0	10.0
0.95	0.90	Freemantle	0.95	0.01	1.0	0.05	5.3	9.5



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## MOTORING

Edited by Daniel Ward

## The safety sales battle

Volvo makes all the running in advertising car safety. But does Volvo in fact make the safest cars? Mercedes does not think so and is concerned that its enormous commitment to safety has been forgotten in the onslaught of claims by rivals, writes Daniel Ward.

A Mercedes executive explains: "It would be easier if direct comparisons on safety were possible but this is against the law in Germany, and against company philosophy."

However, Mercedes is putting the record straight. It has revealed video film of its tests of rival models, though thoroughly disguised, crashing into concrete barriers to provide graphic comparison with its own cars.

At the heart of this comparison is concern about the legal crash test which all cars must pass. As the car slams into a concrete wall at 31mph, the steering wheel must move no more than 127mm towards the driver.

But Mercedes argues that in only a quarter of head-on crashes is there a full frontal impact. More than half involve, perhaps, hitting a lamp post in line with the car's headlamp or where two colliding cars overlap by less than half. This is a more severe test of a car's strength because the engine is unable to help absorb the impact, as videoed crashes revealed.

An American car, claimed to be the safest in the United States several years ago, folded up like a rusty tin in the off-set crash. The pedals were forced back to touch the seat, the steering wheel was almost rubbing the nose of the driver dummy. The driver would have been killed instantly.

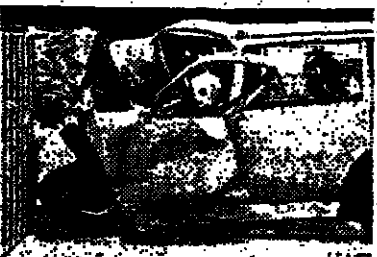
Many leading European models fared only slightly better, bodysheils being torn apart with sickening ease. By comparison, the nose of the Mercedes was barely snubbed but the driver's door still opened and the

## To counter rival claims on safety, Mercedes has videoed comparisons with its own cars

passenger compartment was intact.

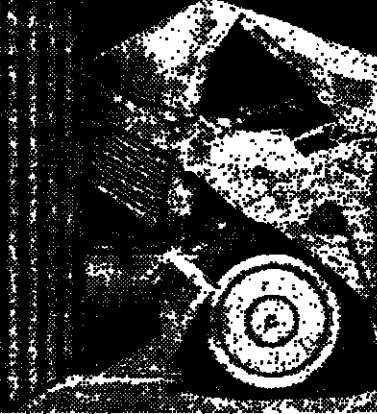
The German engineers claim that only Mercedes and Jaguar spread the impact loads from such severe off-set crashes through the floor and sides of the car.

A £30,000 Mercedes coupé was dropped awkwardly upside down from a height on to the corner of its roof to prove its strength.



Left: the videoed result by Mercedes research staff of crashing a rival manufacturer's car into a concrete wall at 31mph. It shows that the driver and/or passenger would have been seriously injured or killed.

Below: what happened when Mercedes repeated the same test with one of its own cars



Below: what happened when Mercedes repeated the same test with one of its own cars

Herr Inge Kallina, Mercedes' director of safety, is dismissive of the door side bars required under United States law and highlighted by Volvo in its advertising. "We think the side bars have no effect at all. They are higher than the bumper of the colliding car in a side impact," he says. In a side crash the door and interior trim must soften the blow if severe pelvic injuries are to be avoided. Inside the doors' foam armrests, Mercedes fits deformable bridges to reduce such an impact.

Engineers even have the answer to making the polished walnut panels on the fascia safe from splintering: the wood bends like metal because the walnut veneer is glued to an aluminium strengthening strip. Even the glove box is designed to collapse progressively. An open glove box is like a knife on a passenger's legs in a crash.

Mercedes was the first to fit anti-lock brakes and this year 450,000 of the 580,000 cars it builds will be fitted with ABS brakes. However, the company's safety experts are more proud of their air bag development.

All Mercedes sold in the US are fitted with air bags (the cost in Britain is £1,150 for the driver's air bag alone). And every car has seatbelt tensioners which are triggered automatically in accidents above 9mph.

In a crash, the bag is automatically inflated with nitrogen even before the driver's head has been forced forward by the impact. The bag progressively deflates to cushion the head.

Fewer than 200 Mercedes air bags have ever been triggered. An analysis of 133 incidents showed that in 70 per cent the driver was either not hurt at all or suffered only minor injuries.

Injuries due to the seatbelt accounted for a further 30 per cent. In the few fatal accidents Mercedes argues that nothing could have saved the occupants lives.

Each year Mercedes crashes 110 pristine cars and carries out more than 1,000 large scale tests on special rigs. The cynics claim that safety has never sold a car, but this barely matters to Mercedes which is not about to waiver in its belief that all cars should be made as safe as possible in order to preserve life.

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Injuries due to the seatbelt accounted for a further 30 per cent. In the few fatal accidents Mercedes argues that nothing could have saved the occupants lives.

Each year Mercedes crashes 110 pristine cars and carries out more than 1,000 large scale tests on special rigs. The cynics claim that safety has never sold a car, but this barely matters to Mercedes which is not about to waiver in its belief that all cars should be made as safe as possible in order to preserve life.

Mercedes' safety experts are more proud of their air bag development.

All Mercedes sold in the US are fitted with air bags (the cost in Britain is £1,150 for the driver's air bag alone). And every car has seatbelt tensioners which are triggered automatically in accidents above 9mph.

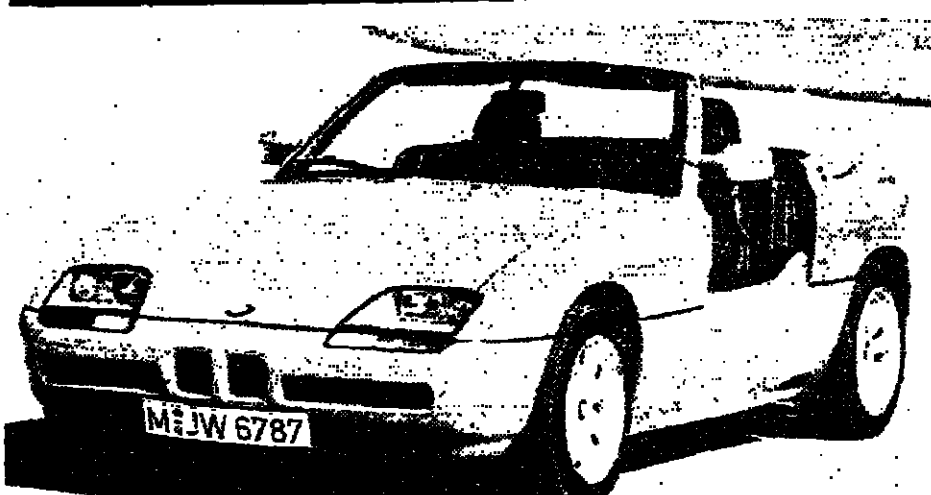
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## ROAD TEST

## BMW Z1



## Sporty with chic drop doors

The doors of the BMW Z1 do not swing open, they slide down and out of sight at the touch of a button. Yet the ingenious doors and chic style play only a small part in the brilliantly conceived Z1.

BMW's first sports car for more than 30 years, writes Daniel Ward.

The Z1 could be seen as an aberration on BMW's part in an era where every detail is discussed endlessly by planning committees, costed to the third decimal point of a penny and then researched among thousands of customers.

It was developed, not by engineers responsible for the latest 5 and 7 series cars, but by 100 specialists at BMW Technik, the small research department. Instead of working on a series of individual projects, their ideas were brought together in Z1.

Unlike so many bright ideas killed off by accountants or marketing men, the Z1 has escaped from the front door of the research department and into production. It is an engineer's dream to be set free and given the chance to experiment with innovations ideas and technologies that are not yet viable for volume production.

Every body panel is plastic and the wings are so pliable that they can withstand the odd brush with a gate post or someone else's bumper, simply springing back into shape. Such plastics are too expensive to use on a mass-produced car but they will come.

The car can be driven without the body panels as the fully galvanized steel chassis

is enormously strong. The floor, made from a moulded sandwich of epoxy resin and foam, will never rust.

The Z1 uses the 170bhp six-cylinder engine from the 325i model along with its front suspension. The new and notably compact rear suspension is designed to do a better job, keeping the wheels upright and maintaining the correct alignment than BMW's usual semi-trailing layout. Weight distribution is near perfect, split 49/51 per cent front to rear.

BMW's stylists had fun designing Z1 and few cars reveal such flair. Plastics allow designers more freedom; the bonnet has both convex and concave curves. Even the exhaust silencer is styled, to act as a aerodynamic diffuser for the air under the car.

Inside, everything is leather-bound and remarkably simple. The only instruments are the few you need; there is nowhere to store oddments and the boot will never swallow a set of golf clubs.

Such lack of compromise has created a superb sports car. The BMW is swift - top speed 140mph and acceleration to 60mph in under eight seconds - but not overly so.

The Z1's ability is more impressive. It is the right size, wide enough to endow the car with the highest levels of grip from fat low-profile tyres yet sufficiently compact to make the tightest, winding roads exhilarating rather than arduous.

Light steering detracts from the near neutral handling but on poorly maintained country roads the suspension is peerless. It is hard to imagine better body control when tackling crests at speed.

The retracting doors are clever, and there is less wind buffeting at 100mph when the doors are raised and the windows lowered.

BMW has no plans to make right-hand drive Z1s as the 1,500-a-year output is already woefully inadequate. The first cars will arrive here in January when the price will be at least £35,000, similar to the new Porsche 944 Cabrio.



Inside story: leather-bound, remarkably simple, little storage

## Taking the lid off on a sunny day's drive

There was a time when owners of open-top cars needed at least two degrees; one in civil engineering, the other meteorology. For raising the roof as black clouds loomed was an awesome task that would be delayed until, and sometimes beyond, the last possible moment, writes Stuart Birch.

Owners of the older Morgan sports cars can often be identified because their arms would not look out of place on an orang-utan, due to the effort needed to hold in place parts of the hood fabric stretched precariously over its supports.

Something of the same could be said of the MGB driver. Early versions of that car had a detachable hood. The frame was in two parts which needed to be fitted together. The hood would be hauled out of the boot and positioned on two lugs just behind the passenger area. It would then be clipped at each side of the car.

If the temperature was less than 55°F the fabric would feel like a rhino hide, and be about as pliable. Clipping the hood in place involved a diabolical trial of strength, one theory

was that the designer of the B's body was not talking to the designer of the hood with the result that the windscreen was half an inch further forward than it should have been.

All this at about the time when man was preparing to walk on the moon.

Things are different today; as the morning sun warmed the air at Juan Le Pins, I stepped into a Jaguar XJS convertible, unhooked a couple of catches, pushed a button and sat snugly while the hood micked itself away in the space of a dozen seconds,

settling itself firmly into place with no more than a power-assisted sigh.

Of course, for £38,500 an owner might expect that sort of service. But he can have something similar on the £11,874 Ford Escort Cabriolet XR3i for an extra £500. Even with manual operation, the Ford's hood is simple enough to raise or lower, and that is the case with practically every other convertible on the market today. So it is ironic that just as the great hood challenge has been met the sports car market is shrinking.

But if the true sports open-top two-seater has a mildly uncertain future the convertible apparently does not. The reason for this may be simple. There are ever fewer aspects of motoring that can be enjoyed, with more and more constraints on speed, parking and freedom of movement.

So despite the risks of atmospheric changes, why not enjoy the pleasure of motoring in the open air, a pleasure that is still as yet untaxed. With an open-top car you could even relax for several hours parked in the jams on the M25.

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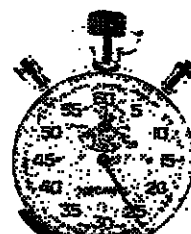
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# Dunn makes strong case to oust Dawe at hooker

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Redemption may still be at hand for Australia, if they can win the international matches against England and Scotland. Much may be forgiven a touring team which wins its international but the evidence of their latest defeat, against South and South-West Division, does not encourage such hopes.

That 26-10 scoreline gives the English divisions a treble and optimism for the national side to be announced on Sunday. That announcement has been carefully timed to come after tomorrow's game between the Midlands and the touring team, but the selectors must have a clear view of their XV by now.

It will be interesting to see if Kevin Dunn has progressed to the senior squad. Dunn, the Gloucester hooker, has had a good week, despite being part of the England B team which was well beaten at Sale last Saturday. Although his scrum was in considerable difficulty at Sale he lost only one ball, and that was because the Australians pushed the English off it. Since he also took a heel against the head off Tom Lawton, he ended his hooking battle fair and square.

He took another heel off Mark McBain on Wednesday, as the Gloucester front row justified their selection ahead of Chilcott and Dawe. Dunn also managed to throw in accurately despite the difficult wind; Mike Rafter, the South-West coach, made the point that, when Bath played Gloucester, Dunn took three heels off Dawe even though

## RUGBY UNION

# Lenthall inspires unbeaten sequence

Schools rugby by Michael Stevenson

St Brendan's, Bristol, have somehow managed to continue their remarkable run of success. Their master-in-charge, Keith Gee, writes: "Early season training has only seen 19 boys attending, so there is not a lot of depth available to us."

Nevertheless, the side, captained by Mark Lenthall, who scored most of the five games, has nine wins from nine matches to its credit and a points tally of 204 scored, to 46 conceded. Outstanding among their results are recent wins against Bristol GS (16-10) and Plymouth College (15-0). Their No. 8, Steve Williamson, scored three tries against Plymouth and Lenthall has kept up his prolific record with a try in every game.

Bradford GS won the St Joseph's, Ipswich, 5-5 tie in the final of the Plate competition. Cwmawrth were beaten by RGS High Wycombe, initially, but a clear-cut victory emerged, but a clear-cut victory emerged, but a clear-cut victory emerged.

In the event the exposure proved something of an embarrassment, even allowing for a game in which the award of 38 penalties (21 to the South-West) prevented any fluidity.

It will not have harmed Stuart Barnes's claim to an England position that he scored 18 points from four penalties and the conversion of his own injury-time try. Halliday and Preedy scored the division's other tries, against two penalties from Leeds and a try by Carozza.

Although Barnes occasionally appeared to take the wrong options, it would be no surprise to see him partner Harding against Australia on November 5, after they helped England to success over Fiji in Suva last June. The match will be sponsored by Save and Prosper, bringing their commitment to English rugby to more than £750,000.

## Sale revival for Smith

Steve Smith, the former England scrum half, has been recalled from retirement by Sale for tomorrow's club match against Sheffield. George Doggart, Sale's first-choice player, is required by Cumbria in the Toshiba county championship, and Chris Campbell, his deputy, is unavailable.

© Graham Dawe, the Bath

# Welsh rugby in search of a new direction after the disasters of New Zealand

## Ryan the realist assumes control

Since he accepted the role as the new coach to the Welsh team, John Ryan, like the hang gliding man, has been standing on the precipice contemplating the view of his valley below and wondering about the prospects that lie ahead.

For certain, no green intricate pattern fixes his stare or fertile plain awaits him; rather it is a weather-beaten old landscape.

Tomorrow, he takes the initial step, thought always to be the hardest — but once taken there's no turning back — when the Welsh B team runs onto the field at Brecon for the match against France B. Yet even now he is in control only in part, being the beneficiary of the bad as well as the good in Welsh club rugby.

He will be as good as the club system in the next five games, has nine wins from nine matches to its credit and a points tally of 204 scored, to 46 conceded. Outstanding among their results are recent wins against Bristol GS (16-10) and Plymouth College (15-0). Their No. 8, Steve Williamson, scored three tries against Plymouth and Lenthall has kept up his prolific record with a try in every game.

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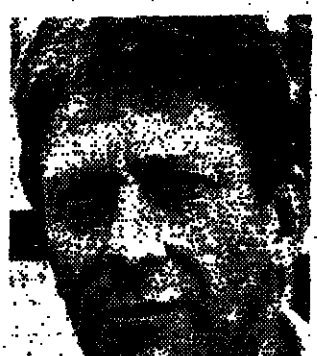
so far, he has done it. He has gone through the courses required by the WRU and first went back to one of his old clubs, Newport High School Old Boys, and succeeded at winning tournaments at that level. Then, between 1974 and 1978, he coached Newport, twice taking them to the Cup final, winning it in 1977, against Cardiff, but losing to Swansea in 1978. He took a year off after that.

## Coach who brings proven credentials

Then, having been born and bred a Newport man, he set the cat truly among the pigeons when, in 1979, he went down the road to coach Cardiff, the only club whose losing score once mattered so much as Newport's winning score, if you understand the jealousies that exist between the Taff and the Usk tawnee bankers.

"I'd gained confidence with Newport's success," he says, "apologizing in case it sounded too boastful, but there remained an element of doubt. Could I repeat the success elsewhere? I had to eliminate that doubt. I think that every coach wants to see whether his methods can transcend the various levels."

It would take him three years, he had said. But by



John Ryan: the new brooms

1981 Cardiff, who had not won anything of note for 25 years, had won the Cup for the first time. Ryan then gave up club coaching again. But he kept his hand in by coaching for the WRU within the structure, introduced in 1983, of the under-20 age group.

If anybody could be said to have proved himself, he most certainly has. Although he had been canvassed earlier for the national appointment, he had been overlooked for no better reason than he was not a former international player, which somehow was an unwritten qualification.

All six previous Welsh coaches had played for Wales and yet, apart from John Dawes who had captained and coached London Welsh in their heyday, none of the other Welsh coaches could boast a track record of any sort at club level. Ryan is the one to break

through that straitjacket. "I can see that it worries a lot of other people far more than it does me that I didn't play for Wales," he said.

He played for Wales while at secondary school before playing university rugby for Nottingham and the UAU in the early 1960s. He played as flanker and occasional centre for London Welsh and Middlesex until 1965 before he returned to Newport. A kidney infection put an end to his playing career.

He has general principles: "The basics must be right in all aspects. The scrum, for instance, remains an important part of the game. Whatever anybody says, we in this country have forgotten that, whereas New Zealand haven't. The difference is they work from it rather than stop with it."

## Disciplinarian of a practical bent

He has very moral habits of thinking. "I am not going to talk publicly about my thoughts on Wales's team to New Zealand. I'm dealing with some of those players now."

"I'm not going to hurt their feelings nor undermine my authority by talking about something which I only saw from 12,000 miles away. I start with a clean sheet."

He has very distinct perceptions: "I am a disciplinarian. I expect players to be disciplined, on and off the field. I expect punctuality. One player late spoils it for the rest. Punctuality shows that a man is aware of his responsibilities and respect for others. That awareness off the field can be translated into something positive on it."

He is not a dreamer. "I don't have much time for talk about 40 per cent possession and that the Welsh backs will do the rest. That is openly admitting that a team is operating below par on a regular basis. The coach's job is to correct it."

His feet are solidly on the ground. His kind of sober, practical thinking is what Welsh rugby now needs. Unlike many others who aspire to coaching as soon as they stop playing rugby, John Ryan has been long enough away to keep the game at arm's length and to know what matters.

To search for some abstract idea is not for him. It's not exact enough. No one is going to catch John Ryan talking high-falootin' ideas. He is a man determined not to move off the beaten track he knows so well and thus is in no danger of losing his way. As an ex-player, he has more than most, can recognize the foolish and wayward ambition.

Gerald Davies

## RACING RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

### Wincanton

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# Warrshan set to justify reputation

By Mandarini  
(Michael Phillips)

The recent record of the Soham House Stakes at Newmarket this afternoon proves that the Dewhurst Stakes or the William Hill Futurity is not necessarily the right road to classic fame.

The corresponding race last year was won by this year's Derby winner, Kalyani, while the 1985 runner-up went to Dancing Brave, who landed the 2,000 Guineas and should have won the Derby.

Even without that background today's race would still be of interest because Michael Seely has decided that the ground is suitable for WARRSHAN, who has al-

ready been backed for next year's classics on the strength of some sparkling home work. Soham House Stakes, this 33.7 million Northern Dancer colt from the Futurity at Doncaster last Saturday after the going had deteriorated.

The only time Warrshan has been seen in public was at Yarmouth last month when he was far more easily than the verdict of only half a length might indicate. It is napped now in the belief that he is far better than that have form might suggest.

Yet to paint this as a one horse race would be totally misleading. Henry Cecil, for instance, has decided to run Galliard, who won his last race

at Yarmouth by a wide margin, while Dancing Brave's trainer, Guy Harwood, is relying on Enigma, who showed promise in the race on the July Course won by that good filly Tessa.

Kalyani's trainer Luca Cumanelli introduces another untried colt belonging to the Aga Khan, Torjorn, who is by Green Dancer out of a sister to the French Derby winner Top Ville.

Michael Jarvis remains adamant that Proratori is better than he appeared at Yarmouth when he was beaten a length by Future Glory. However, he will need to be because Future Glory managed to beat only one horse in last Saturday's Futurity.

Although Proratori apparently was coughing when he returned home from Yarmouth, Jarvis's best chance of success today lies with AONIA in the Pottery Trophy. This half-brother to the horse Formando might well have won his last race at Folkestone, instead of finishing second, had he not been hampered by a loose horse a furlong from home.

The EBF Red Lodge Maiden Stakes, the other race for two-year-olds on the card, can go to SHALFLEET, whose first effort against Green's Canaletto on the course a fortnight ago was so rich with promise.

HIBERNIAN GOLD's sole defeat in his last four starts was when he came up against the outstanding Mitto at Goodwood, and a horse of his calibre ought to be capable of beating even a filly as smart as Ashbury on the terms of the James Seymour Stakes.

There promises to be an enthralling race for the Plymouth Gln Haldon Gold Cup at Devon and Exeter. The conditions and the distance are ideal for BARNBROOK AGAIN, who made such an exciting start to his chasing career last season when he won his first steppechase over today's course and distance, and is now to take third in the Arkle Challenge Trophy at Cheltenham.

## NEWMARKET

### Selections

By Mandarini

- 1.15 WARRSHAN (nap).  
1.45 Harmony Park.  
2.15 Hibernian Gold.  
2.50 Bourbon Topsy.  
3.20 Aonia.  
3.50 Shalfleet.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

- 1.15 WARRSHAN (nap).  
1.45 Naderovoye.  
2.15 National Service.  
2.50 Bourbon Topsy.  
3.20 Kaskin.  
3.50 Mark Of Distinction.

By Michael Seely

- 1.15 WARRSHAN (nap). 2.50 Swing Gumber.

### Going: good Draw: no advantage

#### 1.15 SOHAM HOUSE STAKES (2-Y-O: £4,795; 1m) (9 runners)

104 (1)	1 WARRHAN 44 (F) (Shah) Mohamud M Scale 8-13	W R Shabano	94
111 (2)	5 EHRHARD 44 (Garcia) Shabano & Harwood 8-10	O Shabano	91
112 (3)	6 PROCTOR 44 (P) (A. Galt) M. Javala 8-10	R Shabano	91
115 (8)	3226 SAPHO Coast 28 (St Thomas) Phinglong J Duple 8-10	W Coast	88
116 (4)	5 SHAMIRAM (Age 26) M Scale 8-10.	A Kibabwa	
117 (8)	6 SULTAN (SON 7F) F Salimani P Cole 8-10	F Olan	86
118 (9)	5 SULTAN (Age 18) M Scale 8-10	R Olan	86
119 (10)	5 ESBY 2020 50 (2nd) Duple 8-10	Dane Moforo	77
BETTING: 4-7 Warrhan, 5-1 Galt, 11-2 Turpin, 10-1 Sapho Coast, 12-1 Erlanga, Shamirani, 14-1 others.			











